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Hamas kills Israeli soldier in Gaza

Army reinforces as Palestinians celebrate independence

BAR ZETT, Occupied West Bank, Nov 14 (AP): The streets of this town were lined with Palestinian flags today, and music, dancing and fireworks were planned throughout the occupied lands to mark the first anniversary of the PLO's declaration of independence.

The newly closed schools in the occupied Gaza Strip carried out a series of arrest raids in the West Bank and called up reinforcements to curb rioting.

Israeli troops raided the occupied Gaza Strip, conducting an intensive search for Palestinians who shot and killed an Israeli soldier and wounded another in a night-time ambush yesterday. The slaying was claimed by the Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the shooting, which violated PLO orders to refrain from the use of weapons, may signal a planned increase in the use of weapons and explosives by uprising activists following Palestinian independence day tomorrow.

The shooting came as Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir began a visit to the United States and what is expected to be a tense meeting with President George Bush on US proposals for starting peace talks with Palestinians.

Manweh Bakry, 45, of Nablus, died of chest wounds sustained in a Sept 14 clash with troops. She was the 614th Palestinian to die in the 23-month uprising against Israeli occupation.

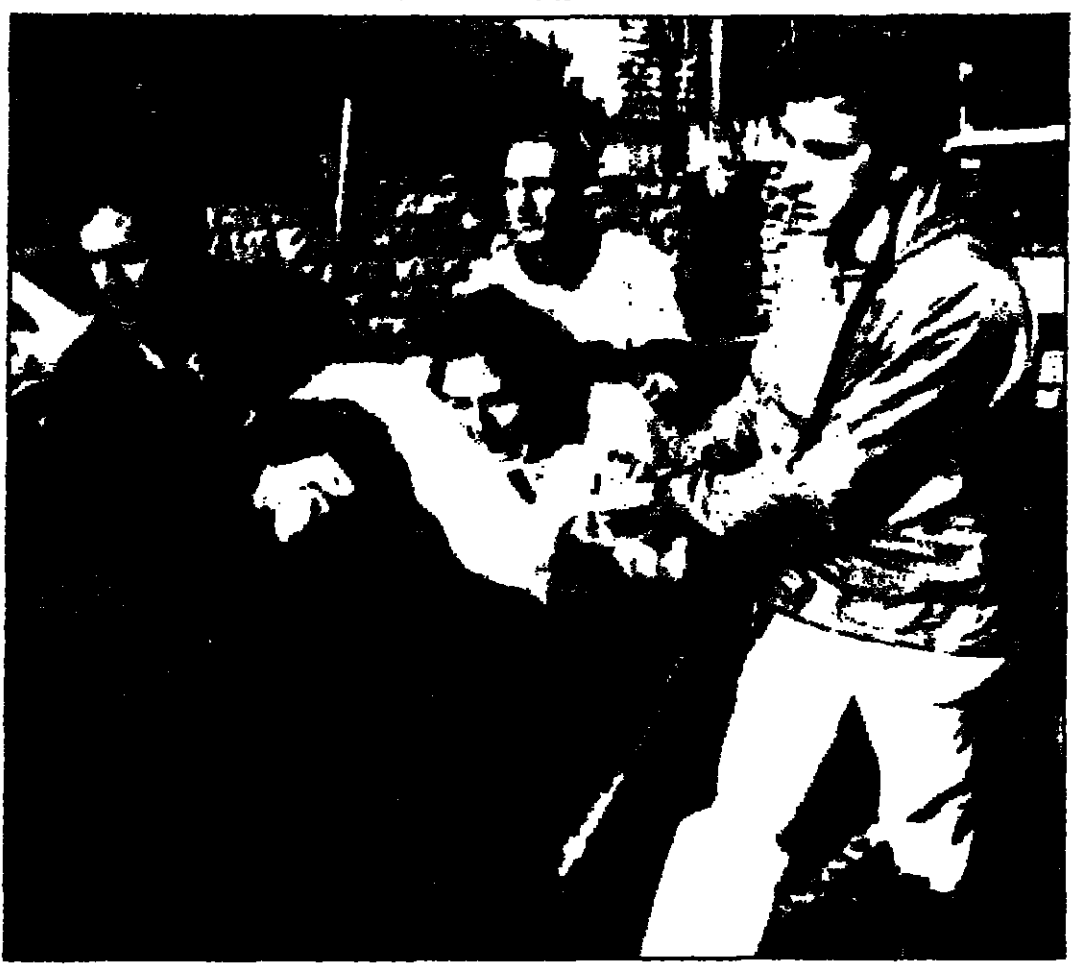
In towns and villages throughout the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip black, white, green and red Palestinian flags fluttered from telephone poles and electricity wires and pictures of the PLO chairman Yasser Arafat were pasted on the sides of buildings.

In Gaza, children handed out balloons and flowers in the colours of the Palestinian flag on the eve of Independence day. Motorists honked horns and turned their lights on as they drove down the main commercial thoroughfare, Omar Al Mukhtar street, witnesses said.

In the early evening, fireworks rockets streaked across the sky, leaving red and blue trails.

Rabin warned Palestinians not to participate in the festivities which are set to begin in earnest at midnight tomorrow.

In a security sweep of the West Bank, soldiers detained at least 58 Palestinians suspected of uprising activities, Arab reporters said.



A Palestinian schoolgirl screams as she is arrested by plainclothes Israeli police officers. (Reuter wirephoto)

Egyptians flee from Baghdad

Hundreds crowd airport in unprecedented exodus

BAGHDAD, Nov 14 (Reuters): Hundreds of Egyptian labourers crowded Baghdad airport today to join a hurried exodus to Cairo, with extra flights airlifting about 2,000 a day.

In Egypt, a Foreign Ministry source said Cairo was investigating newspaper reports that Egyptian workers in Iraq had been abused and in some cases murdered.

"We are taking it very seriously and have to deal with the allegations," he said.

The workers in traditional Egyptian long robes, were laden with heavy bags as they queued to join the exodus.

Others, who had tickets but no reservations, used their bags as pillows to sleep on the floor, littered with empty coffee and tea cups.

The cigarette smoke-filled terminal has long been used just for Egyptian labourers who flooded into Iraq to relieve a serious manpower shortage during Baghdad's eight-year-long war with Iran.

At times more than one million Egyptians worked in the country and their remittances were one of the major sources of Egypt's foreign currency, earning more than the revenue of the Suez Canal.



Palestinian high school girls sing nationalistic songs inside their school grounds as one girl (right) covers the face of a classmate during a celebration of declaration of a new Palestinian state. (Reuter wirephoto)

Benazir promises reshuffle

ISLAMABAD, Nov 14 (Reuters): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, seeking a broad-based government, has vowed to reshuffle her large cabinet after all her ministers and advisers resigned to allow her a free hand.

Benazir received the resignations at a cabinet meeting yesterday, 12 days after narrowly surviving an opposition parliamentary no-confidence motion aimed at toppling her 11-month-old minority government.

She asked the 22 ministers and 23 deputy ministers to stay on until the reshuffle but told the meeting she would decide the future of half a dozen advisers today, government sources said.

The influence of non-elected advisers on the government has been criticised both by opposition parties and deputies of Benazir's Pakistan People's Party (PPP).

No date for the reshuffle was given but political sources said it would be soon because Benazir was keen to create ministers from opposition deputies willing to work with her.

Bihar riots flare up again

Police shoot dead 5 in Bhagalpur

PATNA, India, Nov 14 (Agencies): Police killed at least five people today in the latest of a series of bloody Hindu-Muslim clashes which have claimed hundreds of lives in north India in the past three weeks.

Police started shooting when a mob set fire to more than 40 houses in a village in Bhagalpur district in Bihar state, Home Commissioner J.R. Arya said.

About 200 people died in Bhagalpur in four days of carnage in October. Community leaders say up to 500 people may have died in clashes which erupted over a disputed religious site in neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state.

A plan by Hindu fundamentalists to build a temple next to a 16th-century mosque in the Uttar Pradesh town of Ayodhya is one of the biggest issues in next week's Indian general elections. It has cost Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi crucial Muslim support.

Pakistan, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia and Iran have all expressed concern that the Indian government did not prevent Hindus from laying foundation stones for the new temple, which some Muslims believe marks Noah's grave.

Clashes between India's Hindu majority and its 100 million Muslims are common but have intensified over the temple dispute.

Last weekend at least 10 people died in a Hindu-Muslim clash in the sacred city of Varanasi which like Bhagalpur is on Hinduism's holy river Ganges.

Sikh extremists raided a liquor store in Punjab state and fatally shot two owners and two employees, police said today.

Five armed men walked into the shop last night in Kathunanagal village, east of Amritsar, and opened fire, senior superintendent of police Sanjeev Gupta said.

A Rajiv supporter bears his leader's portrait through an opposition stronghold in New Delhi. (Reuter wirephoto)

In Amritsar.

He said the two owners and two salesmen, all Hindus, died in the burst of automatic gunfire. The attack occurred at 9.30 pm (1600 GMT), half an hour before the shop's closing time.

The extremists had sent several letters to the owners, warning them to wind up business, Gupta said.

In another development, the "Hindu" associate editor N. Ram has served a legal notice on Congress spokesman Anand Sharma, threatening to sue him for defamation for alleging that the "Bofors" documents published by the newspaper some time ago were forgeries. (See also page 7)



A Rajiv supporter bears his leader's portrait through an opposition stronghold in New Delhi. (Reuter wirephoto)

Lanka wipes out JVP leadership

6 politburo men killed

COLOMBO, Nov 14 (Agencies): Government troops captured and killed another leader of the Sinhalese extremist group that has been trying to overthrow the government, a cabinet minister said today.

Upatissa Gamanayake, the second-in-command of the People's Liberation Front, was shot to death last night when he tried to escape from custody, Foreign Minister Ranjana Wijeratne said.

Gamanayake's reported killing came less than 24 hours after the government announced that its forces had killed the Front's supreme leader, Rohana Wijeweera, and his third-in-command.

Gamanayake, 36, was regarded as heir apparent to Wijeweera, the Front's founder.

Wijeratne said Gamanayake was captured on information provided by Wijeweera and was leading interrogators to a Front hideout when he tried to jump out of the vehicle. Soldiers shot and killed him, Wijeratne said.

More than 6,000 people have been slain since August 1987, when the People's Liberation Front started attacking and assassinating government officials. As the killings of government officials escalated, so did the slayings of young Sinhalese men, whose bodies were found dumped along roadsides. The government often described these men as suspected Front members or sympathizers and blamed their deaths on a pro-government vigilantes.

Wijeratne, who is also deputy defence minister, said troops were put on a maximum alert to guard against any retaliation by Front members.

Six of the Front's seven politburo members have been killed, Wijeratne said. He declined to identify the seventh member, saying he was still at large.

Victor Ivan, a former Front leader, predicted the group would disintegrate with the deaths of Wijeweera and his chief aides.

"The JVP will break up," Ivan said, referring to the Front by its Sinhalese initials. "I think this will be the end of the story because all its top men have been killed."

Ivan was jailed after leading the Front's unsuccessful uprising against the government in 1971.

Sri Lankan troops were rushed to an eastern Muslim town today after people panicked when fighting broke out between Tamil rebels and the police, residents and military sources said.

Residents at Kalmutai, east of Colombo, said by telephone the army was called in after police patrols were ambushed three times in 24 hours.

Prague eases travel

PRAGUE, Nov 14 (AP): Premier Ladislav Adamec said today that Czechoslovak citizens will no longer need exit permits to travel to Western countries and Yugoslavia.

He did not say when the new regulations would take effect.

In an address to the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly, Adamec said his government regards "tourism as the citizens' important right to get to know the world, gain experience and establish personal contacts."

Czechoslovakia has been among the most resistant countries in the Soviet bloc to political reforms and has cracked down on dissent.

Some travel freedoms have been allowed, although authorities in the past often refused to allow leading dissidents to travel abroad.

In July, the government eased some travel restrictions but did not lift the requirement for an exit visa when travelling to the West.

Adamec said the government was taking steps to remove unnecessary bureaucratic paperwork to make travel easier.

"The processing of travel documents is being speeded up," Adamec said. "For travel to non-socialist countries and to Yugoslavia exit visas will not be necessary."

Weather

CLOUDY and rainy weather continuing with moderate to fresh south-easterly wind.

State of sea: Moderate to rough.

High water: 2.00 am, 12.00 pm

Low water: 7.20 am, 7.13 pm

Sunrise: 6.12 am

Sunset: 4.53 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 26°C 75°F

Amman: 24°C 75°F

Falaka: 25°C 77°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 17°C 63°F

Amman: 21°C 70°F

Falaka: 19°C 66°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 26°C 75°F

Amman: 25°C 77°F

Falaka: 24°C 75°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 85 per cent

Amman: 84 per cent

Falaka: 84 per cent

Sacked official accuses Aquino kin of being 'rela-thieves'

MANILA, Nov 14 (AP): The ousted telecommunications chief today charged Corason Aquino's relatives of corruption and said the president refused to listen when he tried to detail his charges against her family.

Allegations of corruption by unnamed presidential relatives have surfaced in the past, mostly from opposition politicians.

But the charges by Jose Luis Alcuaz, former commissioner of the National Telecommunications Commission, were unprecedented because he named alleged offenders and because of his past loyalty to Mrs Aquino.

In a radio interview, Alcuaz said Mrs Aquino apparently was not serious about stamping out corruption in her administration if it involved members of her family.

"I see now that this new administration is just continuing the old practices of the administration that we ousted."

"The so-called new moral order is gone because the very relatives of President Corason Aquino are those who are perpetuating the bad order," Alcuaz said.

The Department of Transportation and Communications announced today that Alcuaz had been dismissed as commissioner of the National Telecommunications Commission effective the previous day.

The announcement gave no reason for the dismissal. Staffers at the presidential press office and the Communications Department said they could not comment on the brief announcement.

During the interview, broadcast nationwide, Alcuaz accused Mrs Aquino's relatives of interfering with the operations of government and of using their position to block official policy decisions.

Alcuaz said that during a meeting with Mrs Aquino, he offered to identify her relatives involved in unsavoury practices.

"President Aquino, if you are sincere about the presidential 'rela-thieves' who are making or interfering in the functions of government agencies, I would just want to remind you, President Aquino, that you issued an administrative order a year ago telling all government officials not to mind presidential relatives who interfere," Alcuaz said.

See also Page 2

Malta to end military accord

VALLETTA, Nov 14 (Reuters): Malta will end a military agreement with Libya that has strained relations with the United States before hosting next month's seaborne superpower summit, Prime Minister Edward Fenech Adami said today.

The summit between US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev off Malta's coast put the Mediterranean island at centre stage in a historic moment, he said during an interview with Reuters.

It also crowned a radical improvement in relations with Washington since he took office in 1987, he added.

The pro-Libyan policies of Malta's previous Labour government severely strained relations with Washington. But Fenech Adami said in a few days he expected to sign a new agreement with Libya drastically amending a 1964 friendship treaty "and eliminating all the objectionable provisions."

Five days before referendum on Muslim autonomy

Blast kills one at Manila election office

MANILA, Nov 14, (AP): A powerful explosion ripped through the national headquarters of the Election Commission today, five days before a controversial referendum on Muslim autonomy. Police said one man was killed.

The 7:05 pm (1105 GMT) blast destroyed four rooms on the left side of the commission on elections building, police said. It also damaged windows in the nearby Manila Roman Catholic cathedral.

A part-time maintenance man was killed,

police said. Officials said several employees were working overtime in the building at the time of the explosion.

There were no arrests and no one claimed responsibility. But police said two passersby were taken into custody for questioning.

Commission officials had requested additional security at the building because of reports that Muslims planned a demonstration there on Wednesday to protest the upcoming referendum on regional autonomy

for Mindanao and other southern islands.

On Sunday, voters in 13 southern provinces and nine cities will decide whether to join an autonomous regional government aimed at satisfying self-rule demands from an estimated four million Filipino Muslims and ending a nearly 20-year-old Islamic revolt.

But critics and supporters of the autonomy plan, approved by congress and signed by President Corazon Aquino last August, fear it might fall short of its goals and anger both Christians and Muslims.

Fate in their hands

Crucial vote on Muslim self-rule in Mindanao

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines, Nov 14, (AP): Southern Filipino voters decide on Sunday whether to join an autonomous regional government aimed at satisfying demands for self-rule by the estimated four million Filipino Muslims and ending a nearly 20-year-old Islamic revolt.

But critics and supporters of the autonomy plan, approved by Congress and signed by President Corazon Aquino last August, fear it may fall short of its goals and anger both Christians and Muslims.

Supporters also criticise the Aquino administration for failing to improve the public details of the plan.

The referendum covers 13 provinces and nine cities of Mindanao and

other southern islands, the traditional homeland of the Islam.

Provinces and cities where a majority votes "yes" will join the autonomous administration. Once voters decide which areas are included in the self-governing region, elections will be held to choose a governor, a vice-governor and a legislative assembly.

The regional government will control its own police force and be responsible for taxation, natural resources, urban and rural planning, economic development and education.

Marcos property sold

\$77m for skyscraper

NEW YORK, Nov 14, (UPI): A Wall Street skyscraper allegedly owned by late Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife was auctioned yesterday for \$77 million, just \$100 more than the outstanding mortgage on the building.

The building at 40 Wall Street went to a group of investors headed by real estate developer Burton Resnick, who said he was pleased with the price.

The court-appointed special master supervising the sale called the relatively low price a "tragedy." He blamed unstable financial markets for the sale price, which was far lower than the \$108.6 million price offered in an August auction.

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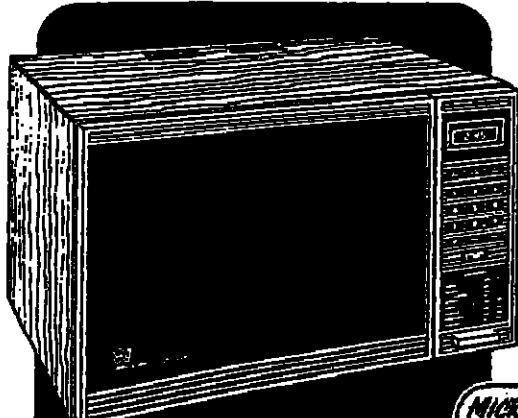
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Rebels slay 6 policemen

MANILA, Nov 14, (AP): Communist guerrillas killed six policemen returning from a patrol on an island south of Manila, the military reported today.

The report said an undetermined number of New People's Army rebels ambushed a seven-man police team yesterday afternoon as it was heading back to the police station in Bongabong town, 224 kilometres (140 miles) south of Manila in Mindoro island.

The rebels fled with the slain policemen's firearms. Soldiers have been sent out to pursue the attackers but there was no immediate report of an engagement.



Cosmonauts arrive for check-up

Four British candidate cosmonauts arrive at Moscow Sheremetyevo airport Nov 12 to undergo a two-week medical check-up by Soviet doctors (left to right) Helen Sharman, Givie Smith, Gordon Brooks and Timothy Mays. (Reuters wirephoto)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Novelist William Styron says that in 1986 he almost joined the ranks of such authors as Ernest Hemingway, Virginia Woolf and Jack London — all of whom have committed suicide.

"Like many great American writers," Styron wrote in *Docu-bio's Vagabond*, "I used alcohol as the magical conduit to fantasy and euphoria, and to the enhancement of the imagination."

But in 1983, Styron's body suddenly rejected alcohol, "which for so long had kept me in a dreamlike state. Deprived of this crutch, depression swooped in (AP)."

BEIJING: Children whose schools were destroyed in a series of earthquakes last month in northern China will resume classes in heated tents, an official report says.

The earthquakes struck Shanxi province about 140 miles west of Beijing from early to mid-October. The strongest measured 7.1 on the Richter Scale and toppled more than 37,000 homes.

At least 29 people were killed and 250 injured, news reports said. More than 50,000 were made homeless (AP).

NATCHITOCHEES, Louisiana: Dolly Parton says she is asking her fans to help her latest movie by "like asking a parent if they think their kid is ready."

The part of a beautiful in *Steel Dawn* was a natural for her, the country singer and actress told reporters after the movie's premier in Natchitoches, the town where it is set.

"I thought I could play the part of a country girl with a southern accent and go," she said.

Parton, co-star Daryl Hannah and playwright Robert Harling dressed in pink shirts and blue jeans for a premier Friday at Northwestern State University (AP).

NEW YORK: What's the secret to longevity on television? Willard Scott says it's being goofy. "Fall on your face, tell a dumb joke, be a little bit of a buffoon," the *Today* show weatherman says in TV guide. "Even though people will just barely tolerate you and almost embarrassing shake their heads and say, 'My God, they'll always invite you to the party,' Bryant Gumbel's opinion notwithstanding, Willard says one key to his success is being corny."



Finishing touches

Alessandro D'Amico, 92, gives a last touch to one of his handmade violins mouldered in maple and red fir wood, in his Rome workshop Nov 14. His violin with silver-coated bass strings requires some 1,500 hours of personal work and is priced for about \$8,000. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kitty Dukakis' drinking rubbing alcohol termed as 'a slip'

BOSTON, Nov 14, (AP): Governor Michael Dukakis yesterday described his wife's ingestion of rubbing alcohol as "a slip" and said decisions would be made in the next few days about further treatment for her.

Kitty Dukakis is a recovering alcoholic who has received treatment for chemical dependency. "Slip" is a term used by recovering alcoholics to describe a lapse back into drinking.

"Obviously my principal concern is making sure Kitty has the opportunity to pursue her

recovery with some privacy and some space," said Dukakis, briefing reporters about his wife's health. "The important thing is to get back on track."

The former Democratic presidential candidate also said he had visited his wife at Brigham and Women's Hospital yesterday and that "she is feeling much better." He refused to answer reporters' questions.

Dukakis said no decisions had been made yet as to further treatment, but his wife would

make them after consultation with her doctors. "Recovery is a lifelong process," he said.

Mrs Dukakis, 52, was brought to Brigham and Women's Hospital by ambulance Nov 6. Her doctor said she suffered a "severe reaction" from drinking rubbing alcohol.

Experts on alcoholism say it is not unusual for an alcoholic to drink rubbing alcohol, hair spray or other products containing alcohol when the craving hits and liquor is not available.

Decaf coffee may boost cholesterol

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana, Nov 14, (UPI): Decaffeinated coffee may boost cholesterol levels in humans, a researcher said yesterday, disputing earlier studies indicating that caffeinated coffee was the culprit behind higher cholesterol levels.

The study by Dr Robert Superko, medical director of the Lipid Research Clinic at Stanford University in California, seems to contradict at least a dozen other studies that indicated caffeinated coffee drinkers had higher cholesterol levels.

Superko, who delivered a paper on his

study at the American Heart Association's 62nd scientific sessions, dismissed most of those studies — including a series that showed Norwegians who drank caffeinated coffee had higher cholesterol levels — as flawed.

"When you see studies that show coffee causing increased cholesterol in Norwegians, that indeed is true, but it's because they boil their coffee and do not filter it," Superko said.

Most American coffee drinkers — 85 per cent — drip their coffee through filters, which removes the fat associated with

increased cholesterol, he said.

For Superko's four-month study, 180 middle-aged male coffee drinkers drank three to six cups of regular coffee a day for two months. After testing, they were randomly assigned to one of three groups. A third were given caffeinated coffee to drink, a third decaffeinated and a third drank no coffee and acted as the control group.

None changed their eating patterns, and none were allowed to sweeten their coffee or use any type of creamer.

"I tried to design (the test) like you

would a drug study, and wouldn't have other drugs bouncing in and out of the protocol," he said.

At the end of the study, Superko said he found no cholesterol level difference between the control group and the caffeinated coffee drinkers.

"There is absolutely no difference when you stop caffeinated coffee consumption," he said.

But the decaffeinated coffee drinkers experienced a jump in levels of low density lipoprotein cholesterol, the so-called "bad" cholesterol, Superko said.

Foetuses check-up made easier

BALTIMORE, Nov 14, (UPI): A new method using a small sample of a mother's blood may open the way for safer, easier tests to check foetuses for genetic defects, researchers reported yesterday.

In findings presented at the American Society of Human Genetics' annual meeting, a Boston research team said it has found a possible, non-invasive alternative to current prenatal screening tests, which require withdrawal of fluid or tissues from areas near the developing foetus.

The technique developed by the Boston team involves taking a relatively small blood sample from pregnant women. The sample is then screened for the presence of foetal red blood cells that naturally leak from the placenta into the mother's blood stream.

The foetal cells differ from the mother's blood cells because they have a nucleus bearing a complete set of chromosomes that contain genetic information about the foetus.

Current methods of looking at such genetic information — amniocentesis and Chorionic Villus Sampling (CVS) — pose a risk of complications because of their invasive nature.

CVS, which uses a catheter to sample cells from a membrane produced by the foetus, has a 4 per cent rate of complications, primarily due to bacterial infections. Amniocentesis, which uses a hollow needle to draw fluid from the womb, has a 0.5 per cent complication rate but cannot be used early in pregnancy.

Such tests are used to determine if a foetus will have Down's Syndrome or other serious genetic disorders.

In their study, Dr Diana Bianchi and colleagues from Harvard Medical School, children's hospital and Howard Hughes Medical Institute took blood samples from 19 pregnant women.

After a complicated procedure to separate out the foetal cells, Bianchi said her team were able to use genetic probes on the cells similar to those used to detect genetic diseases.

Bianchi's team checked the suspected foetal cells in the women's blood for the presence of the Y chromosome, which is found only in men. Finding that genetic material in a woman's blood should prove such cells came from a male foetus and were not her own, researchers said. Researchers detected signs of the Y chromosome in the bloodstream of six of the eight women who gave birth to a boy.

Bianchi emphasized her findings are preliminary and more work needs to be done before such a test could be available at doctors' offices. But she said "this sensitive method holds promise for non-invasive screening."

Women tested in the Boston study were in their second trimester of pregnancy. But researchers said their method could probably be used earlier in pregnancy because foetal cells appear in the bloodstream by at least eight weeks after conception.

Also at the genetic meeting, a Chicago research team said it has found a way to examine a woman's egg cells for genetic flaws before conception.

The technique, developed by Yuri Verilsky and co-workers from Illinois Masonic Medical, was tested in a woman to carry a gene for an inherited lung disorder.

Under the method, researchers took the woman's egg cells out of the body and looked at a structure, called the first polar body, nestled beside the maturing egg cell. The polar body contains half of the woman's genetic makeup — and the remaining half is in the egg awaiting fertilization by a sperm.



Taylor visits AIDS patients

Actress Elizabeth Taylor shakes hands with an AIDS patient during her visit to a hospital in Bangkok Nov 13. Taylor is here for visits as chairman of American AIDS Research Foundation. (Reuters wirephoto)

FBI to hunt 'granny killer'

SYDNEY, Nov 14, (Reuters): The US Federal Bureau of Investigation has been asked to help solve a baffling series of broad-daylight murders of elderly Australian women, police said today.

All of the victims were more than 80 years old and were beaten to death within sight of their own homes in the wealthy suburbs bordering the north shore of Sydney harbour.

Although police are not certain that only one person is responsible, the city's newspapers have highlighted the striking similarities in all four deaths and called them the case of the "granny killer".

Detectives investigating the series of killings, which started in March, have so far uncovered no leads and New South Wales police commissioner John Avery said today he was calling in the FBI.

"We are trying to ... put to work every possible resource that can help," Avery told reporters.

Aids victim priest welcomed back

Moot on killer disease

VATICAN CITY, Nov 14, (UPI): An Irish priest who shocked a Vatican conference on Aids by brandishing a sign saying "the Vatican has Aids" was welcomed back to the conference today after explaining that he himself is an Aids victim and another Aids victim was shouted down yesterday, by a bishop at the start of the Vatican's first conference on the killer disease.

The priest was the Rev. Peter White, originally described by Vatican officials as an American, but later identified by his passport as an Irish missionary priest.

White was expelled from the opening session of the Vatican conference on Aids yesterday after he unfurled a banner bearing the slogan "the Vatican has Aids" from the speaker's rostrum.

But when the conference resumed today White was welcomed back to the Vatican's Synod Hall and allowed to explain his gesture.

Archbishop Fiorenzo Angelini, president of the pontifical council for pastoral assistance to health workers which organised the three-day conference, won loud applause by embracing White, knowing he was an Aids victim.

Angelini told the hundreds of scientists and theologians attending the conference that White was not the only Aids victim among them.

"Somebody said the other day that we were holding this meeting

without an Aids victim," the conference chairman said. "On the contrary, there are several Aids victims among us, but they have requested discretion as to their identity for understandable reasons."

White told the conference he contracted Aids — Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome — in Africa, while working as a missionary.

He said his shock gesture yesterday was intended as a call for solidarity for Aids victims. "When a Christian is sick, the whole church suffers with him," he said, explaining the significance of his banner slogan, "the Vatican has Aids."

At the time Angelini had Vatican gendarmes remove White from the conference hall yesterday, he was not aware that White had Aids. Once the Irish priest explained his position he was released from custody and invited to return to the conference.

Peter Larkin, 34, an Aids patient from London, was shouted down by the conference's main organiser, Angelini, when he challenged a speech by Monsignor Carlo Caffarra, a theologian close to Pope John Paul.

Caffarra called homosexual activity perverse. He said the use of condoms was never morally justified, not even to avoid spreading the disease to a partner or to an unborn child.

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Protect Latam rights: Amnesty

LONDON, Nov 14, (AP): Amnesty International appealed today to the Organisation of American States to stop illegal executions, disappearances and other human rights abuses in several Latin American countries.

The world-wide human rights organisation said there has been a "dramatic deterioration" in human rights in parts of the region during the last 18 months. Widespread violence in Colombia, Peru, Guatemala and El Salvador was a particular concern, it said.

It appealed to the OAS, whose foreign ministers are meeting in Washington, to help eradicate "abhorrent" violations by government forces and paramilitary groups linked with them.

In its catalogue of allegations, Amnesty International reported that since 1983:

- More than 2,500 civilians in Colombia have been deliberately and unlawfully killed for political reasons by the army and paramilitary forces working for them, and more than 300 people have disappeared.
- Hundreds of Peruvians have disappeared, been tortured or killed by government forces.
- In Guatemala, hundreds of victims reportedly disappeared or were illegally executed by members of the security forces operating in uniform or clandestinely in the guise of death squads.

— El Salvador, now mired in the worst fighting of its 10-year civil war, there was "persuasive evidence" that police and military personnel carried out abductions, disappearances and politically motivated killings attributed to death squads.

Amnesty International said it has also received reports this year of illegal executions or disappearances in other countries.

A report issued yesterday by the inter-American commission on human rights accuses the government of Panama led by General Manuel Noriega of widespread human rights abuses, including murder, torture and political repression.

The report was handed over to Western Hemisphere foreign ministers attending the annual general assembly of the Organisation of American States.

27 people dead in Colombia

BOGOTA, Nov 14, (UPI): A wave of weekend violence, including clashes between troops and leftist guerrillas, left 27 people dead in Colombia. The Defence Ministry reported Monday.

The nation Attorney-General, Alfonso Gomez, said, meanwhile, that the armed forces have been infiltrated by drug traffickers and that the country should create a special "armed militia" to battle the cocaine cartels.

"The problem of the infiltration is occurring at all levels," Gomez was quoted as telling the newspaper El Tiempo.

"I believe the state is working on this... in spite of the difficulties. In the case of the police, the infiltration is infinitely less, but that is not to say that it has disappeared," Gomez said.

Prisoner re-captured after 2 agents slain

NEW YORK, Nov 14, (AP): A prisoner accused of shooting two detectives in the back of the head as they drove him back to jail was recaptured at his girlfriend's home, police said.

Stoney Harrison, 25, was found at a house in Brooklyn late last night about 10 hours after the shooting, said Sgt Mary Wrensen.

Detectives Keith L. Williams, 34, of Brooklyn, and Richard J. Guerson, 46, of Merrick, Long Island, were shot to death in their car on the Grand Central Parkway near Laguardia Airport.

Police believe Harrison — who had been taken from Rikers Island prison to a courthouse in the Borough Queens — stole a gun from a detective squad locker in the Queens district attorney's office, where he had been left unattended for a short time yesterday.

Law enforcement officials said a .38-caliber service revolver was discovered missing from the roomers after the shooting. Prisoners kept in the room are usually handcuffed to a pipe out of reach of the lockers.

Bid to fight drugs

US forms task force

WASHINGTON, Nov 14, (AP): The US House of Representatives approved a series of anti-drug bills yesterday, and the Defence Department formed a new unit to combat the flow of illegal drugs across the US-Mexican border.

The new unit, known as Joint Task Force 6, will be located near the border at Fort Bliss, in El Paso, Texas.

Two similar groups were set up earlier this year — at the southern tip of Florida to guard against drug smuggling from the Caribbean and in Oakland, California, aimed at detecting aircraft and ships smuggling drugs from the Pacific.

The House bills, which still must be approved by the Senate, would give legal shape to President George Bush's war on narcotics from the Andean countries where coca is grown to US schools and neighbourhoods where it is consumed.

The legislation provides the authority for a list of programmes carrying out the drug war and putting Congress' imprimatur on the initiative Bush announced earlier this year. The government will spend some \$8.8 billion on its anti-drug efforts this year, and the money itself is provided for in other legislation.

One of the measures the House passed authorises \$125 million in military aid in fiscal 1990 for Colombia, Peru and Bolivia to train and equip anti-narcotics forces in their law enforcement, interdiction and eradication battle. Another \$115 million is authorised for the State Department's international anti-drug operations.

Addressing a major congressional concern, the bill specifically bars US military and drug-enforcement personnel from directly participating in anti-drug field operations abroad, including arrests.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother kills kids, self: A woman whose marriage had recently broken up slashed the throats of her three sons with a pocketknife and then took her own life, police said.

The woman's mother, who had talked with her daughter about her problems late into the night Sunday, found the bodies yesterday morning in a Baltimore suburb, police said.

The body of Diane Ellen Warwick, 36, was found in a bathtub with both wrists slashed, and a Swiss army knife was found nearby, said police Cpl. Steve Doanberger. (AP)

Jordanian indicted: A Jordanian man charged with counterfeiting and money laundering after his arrest in early October on a routine traffic stop faces a new set of federal charges, the US customs service said yesterday.

Mohammad Alasad, 35, of Houston was charged with six counts of trafficking in counterfeit labels and one count of infringement of a copyright in connection with the seizure of recording equipment in a Houston factory in late October, officials said.

After his arrest earlier in October, Alasad was charged with counterfeiting and money laundering. A police officer who pulled the Jordanian's car over to the side of the road during a routine stop on Oct 7 found \$31,616 in cash and 864 counterfeit audio cassette tapes in Alasad's vehicle on interstate 10 in Harrison county. (AP)

Justice Department ends appeal: The US Justice Department said yesterday it will end its court appeal aimed at delaying the trial of the former CIA station chief in Costa Rica for alleged involvement in the Iran-Contra scandal.

The decision helps clear the way for the former intelligence agent, Joseph Fernandez, to go on trial for allegedly lying about his involvement in secret manoeuvring to resupply the Nicaraguan Contra rebels during the administration of former President Ronald Reagan.

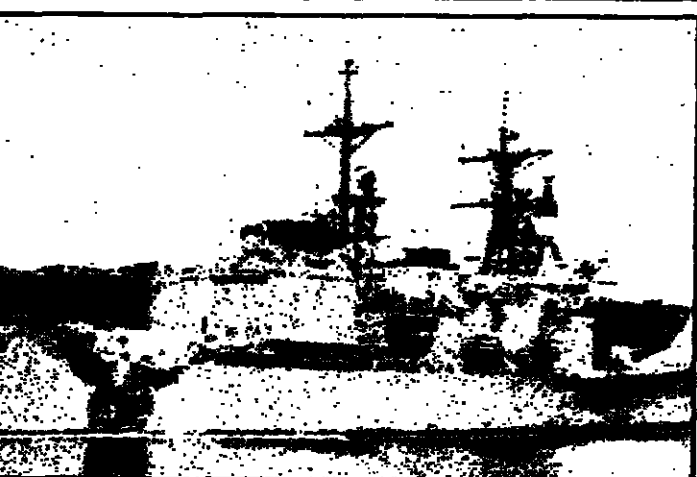
"We are pleased that the Justice Department has decided not to delay the Fernandez case further by additional appeals," Iran-Contra prosecutor Lawrence Walsh's office said in a statement. "We are prepared to proceed to trial." (AP)

A bomb? No, just a mummy: Police were worried that a package left on the steps of the University of Utah's Museum of Natural History might contain a bomb. But an x-ray revealed the bones of a 1,000-year-old mummy.

Authorities say the remains, packed into a television box, likely belong to member of the ancient Anasazi Indian tribe. Anthropologists and pathologists say the rare find is among the best preserved they have seen. Law enforcement officials believe looters carried the mummy from its burial cave in the desert southwest, where the Anasazi, or "ancient ones," farmed and hunted from about 600 AD until 1350 AD. (AP)

Military lottery proposal: Delaware has submitted an unsolicited proposal to the Defence Department to manage a lottery at US military bases world-wide, the state lottery director announced yesterday.

Ohio's Brown, lottery director, said in a statement that he does not expect a decision from the Defence Department until early 1990.



Ships collide, 1 dead

The 8,350-tonne destroyer US Kinkaid with a massive 15-foot hole above the waterline after a collision on Nov 14 with a merchant vessel in the Straits of Malacca, is in Singapore for repairs. One American sailor was killed and four others injured in the collision. (Reuters wirephoto)

World hunger on the rise

ROME, Nov 14, (AP): The number of hungry people in the world is steadily rising because of the population growth, environmental problems and economic crisis, according to the director-general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Edmond Sasaoma told delegates to the FAO's 25th biennial conference today that the agency conservatively estimates there are 500 million undernourished people in the world. He did not give previous estimates.

He also said the world's population increased by 175 million the past two years and 90 per cent of the births were in Third World countries. "The poorest and least-equipped to cope with this onslaught."

Conference chairman John Kerin of Australia said the world population is about 5 billion now and is expected to expand to as much as 7 billion by the year 2000.

He said the delegates meeting to assess the FAO's operations for the next two years must recognise the need for more liberal trade policies and an end to large subsidies.

Kerin also said the FAO's ability to respond to the world's food problems is hindered by the financial crisis faced by the organisation because some countries have not paid their assessments.

Sasaoma, of Lebanon, said the FAO is facing its worst financial situation ever, with unpaid contributions totalling \$175 million. Organisation officials said that amount the United States owes \$143 million.

The director-general said because of the problems the FAO has had to scale down activities and services by \$68 million over the last three years.

"We have experienced virtually no growth in the last eight or nine years, during which time needs have continued to mount," said Sasaoma. He urged delegates to approve a 1990-91 budget of \$574 million, and said that would provide only a net growth of 1 per cent.

Sasaoma gave this grim assessment of the world's food problems: Protectionism practiced by industrialised nations and the debt crisis conspire against developing countries.

"In 1987 alone, the developed countries spent the colossal sum of \$290 billion simply to protect their own agriculture. Such a policy obviously creates an obstacle for imports from the poor countries," he said.

With the debt crisis, developing countries send more money to the developed countries than they receive from them. In 1988, developing countries paid \$43 billion more than they received.

UN to adopt rights charter

ROME, Nov 14, (Reuters): The United Nations is set to adopt an unprecedented charter of children's rights, a top official with the UN children's fund Unicef said on Monday.

Marco Chiodo, a Unicef deputy executive director, said the United Nations would approve a "universal declaration on the rights of childhood" at its General Assembly in New York within the next week.



Civilians observe the bodies of two of eight FLNM rebels killed during heavy combat. (Reuters wirephoto)

Guerrillas gain in Salvador fighting

Curfew in capital

SAN SALVADOR, Nov 14, (AP): Leftist guerrillas declared parts of the country "liberated territory" today, and a resident of the capital said rebels in a northern neighbourhood had advanced to new positions.

A rebel communique said the liberated territory included parts of eight of the country's 14 provinces. It said people's governments would be established in them.

Salvadoran authorities ordered a 24-hour curfew for half the population of the country's capital today and announced that more than 400 people had been killed so far in a three-day guerrilla offensive.

Colonel Raul Arturo Lopez, spokesman for the military high command, told reporters the army had imposed the curfew because guerrilla snipers had taken up positions in heavily-populated areas and had to be flushed out.

The Salvadoran ambassador to the United States said earlier today that government forces were in control.

The rebels launched their largest assault in eight years Saturday against the US-backed government, attacking military and government buildings in San Salvador and military outposts in outlying regions.

The combat in San Salvador is considered the worst of the 10-year-old war. Civilian casualties were high in the capital as government troops and rebels exchanged gunfire in densely populated districts.

A resident of the Zacamil neighbourhood, one of the northern sectors where rebels held territory yesterday, said by telephone the rebels were advancing and taking up new positions closer to military installations.

Excavations in Guatemala

Mayan civilisation

LOS ANGELES, Nov 14, (AP): Archaeologists who excavated a city in Guatemala's jungle have learned that Mayan civilisation emerged centuries earlier than previously thought, hundreds of years before the Christian era.

"Our findings indicate large-scale Mayan development, including huge temples and other stone buildings, were constructed during a period in which it was thought the most advanced form of construction was small villages," said Richard Hansen of the University of California-Los Angeles.

Full report Page 16

Nicaragua amassing artillery on border

TEGUCIGALPA, Nov 14, (Reuters): Nicaragua is amassing artillery on its border near where thousands of US-backed Contra rebels are based inside Honduras, a Honduran military official said on Monday.

"The Sandinistas are building up strong emplacements of war equipment in the frontier zone (near the rebel camp)," military spokesman Juan Sierra told Reuters, quoting Honduran intelligence reports.

"It is a very provocative attitude," he said, but he declined to give further details and said the Hondurans were taking no extra steps to confront the threat.

Sierra could not say if the build-up was part of an offensive to root out rebels inside Nicaragua or was directed against an estimated 10,000 Contras based inside Honduras.

A senior US military official said the US armed forces would take immediate revenge if Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega attacked Honduras.

"The saddest day for Ortega will be the day he attacks Honduras... in 10 minutes we would be over Managua," Colonel James Hallums, head of US armed forces in Honduras, was quoted as saying in a local press report.

A US embassy spokesman could not confirm the build-up and officials at the Nicaraguan embassy were not immediately available to comment.

Eight rebels have been killed in two recent clashes with Sandinista troops in southeastern Nicaragua, a military spokesman said.

The deaths resulted from confrontations in Acoyapa, 45 miles southeast of Managua, and in Rama, 200 miles southeast of the capital, on Friday and Saturday, he said.

Opposition leader Alfredo Cesar urged a US-backed rebel commander not to reach an agreement with the leftist Sandinista government to demobilise, a letter published Monday said.

Barricade, the official newspaper of the ruling Sandinista Front, reprinted a letter purportedly from Cesar to Col. Enrique Bermudez telling him that the Contras were "indispensable throughout the entire electoral campaign."

Swapo fails to get majority

WINDHOEK, Nov 14, (Reuters): The nationalist movement Swapo has won Namibia's independence election but is unlikely to have the two-thirds majority it needs to impose a constitution, election officials said today.

Early results showed the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) had defeated its main rival, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), to become the biggest party in the constituent assembly.

"Viva Swapo," jubilant supporters at the organisation's Windhoek offices shouted as results poured in.

Swapo won 57.327 per cent of the votes and 41 seats for the 72-member constituent assembly, according to final results announced today by a UN spokesman.

Swapo's nearest rival, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), obtained 28.551 per cent of the votes and 21 seats.

Disappointment

This would leave Swapo short of the 48 seats which would allow it to write its own constitution.

Swapo will have to negotiate with other parties, notably the DTA, if today's results are confirmed.

If there was disappointment in the Swapo camp that the 23-year struggle against South African rule failed to culminate in a landslide, there was little sign of it.

Cars packed with supporters paraded through the streets of once sleepy Windhoek with their horns blaring as people leaning out of windows waving clenched fists.

Celebration

Inside the movement's headquarters, officials embraced each other in an atmosphere of celebration.

As first results came in Swapo trailed the centrist DTA in many parts of the arid territory but turned the tables by crushing its rival in the Ovambo region, which has been the heart of the guerrilla struggle against South African rule.

After painstaking diplomacy, the struggle ended with Pretoria agreeing to give independence to Namibia after 74 years in exchange for the withdrawal of 50,000 Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola.

In April this year a UN peacekeeping force began supervising the year-long progression to independence which almost foundered when hundreds of Swapo guerrillas prematurely entered the country from Angola.

Fears

Fears that the five-day voting last week would be dogged by violence proved largely unfounded and the turnout was high — in Ovambo more than 95 per cent.

Swapo officials yesterday agreed that the elections were free, but said they still had questions about the fairness. They said some of the ballot boxes that arrived in Windhoek did not have the UN seal on them as required.

Territorial election officials denied any such irregularities.

Struggle

Born in a Cape Town barber's shop in 1960, Namibia's black nationalist movement Swapo led an unequal armed struggle against South African rule.

Led by former railwayman Sam Nujoma, it was outgunned in its 23-year war by South Africa's military machine.

The movement was launched in 1960, with Nujoma as president, by a group of Ovambo exiles who met in a Cape Town barber's shop to discuss politics and labour relations in their homeland.

It abandoned non-violence in 1966 after South Africa defied the World Court and refused to relinquish its World War One mandate from the League of Nations to rule Namibia, then known as South-West Africa.



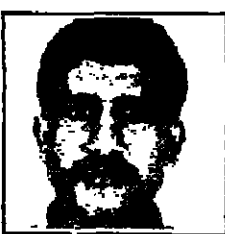
Nujoma: victory

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Camilo Pereira	Indian	551900
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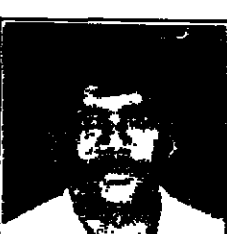
Tuan Ayub Jaldin



Arthur Selvaraj



Camilo Pereira



Ganapathi Rao

Anti-torture committee empowered to investigate violations

STRASBOURG, France, Nov 14, (UPI): The 23-member Council of Europe yesterday gave a new anti-torture committee the power to investigate claims of prisoners rights violations in 15 nations.

The watchdog committee of the European convention on the prevention of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment was officially installed by Council of Europe secretary general Catherine Lalumiere.

The committee has the right to visit prisons in any nation that has ratified the convention.

Twenty European nations signed the convention on Nov 27, 1987, but only 15 countries have ratified it to date.

Fourteen of those 15 nations sent representatives to the ceremonial first meeting at the Palace of Human Rights, Malta, which ratified the convention, has not yet named a representative.

The committee, made up mainly of lawyers and doctors, will visit prisons to determine whether conditions need improvement. Lalumiere said its role was not to condemn

nations but to "help them reinforce the protection of people deprived of freedom." She said she hoped the United Nations Human Rights Commission will find the European convention a source of inspiration in its own efforts to stop human rights abuses.

Antonio Cassese, professor of law and international relations at the European University Institute at Florence, was elected president of the committee, which has been given a 3.5 million franc (\$555,000) budget by the Council of Europe.

Liechtenstein monarch dies

Longest reigning king

VADUZ, Liechtenstein, Nov 14 (AP) — Prince Franz Josef II of Liechtenstein, the world's longest reigning monarch, has died, the principality's information office announced today. He was 83.

His death came late last night after a long, undisclosed illness, and less than one month after his wife, Princess Gina, died at age 67. His poor condition barred him from attending her funeral Oct 24.

His 51 years as head of state spanned the rise of his tiny principality from an underdeveloped rural country to a sophisticated industrialized nation with one of the highest per-capita incomes in the world.

Prince Franz Josef II was the 12th ruler of the 270-year-old nation, the last remnant of the "Holy Roman Empire." The principality covers 61 square miles (158 square kilometers) of rolling land and rugged mountains between Switzerland and Austria.

He enjoyed great popularity among the 28,000 inhabitants, often mixing with them in the streets of Vaduz, the capital. "I am ruling over a happy country," the prince, described by the constitution as "hallowed and sacrosanct," once said in a rare interview. "It is a happy country because it is small."

In 1984 he handed over executive powers to his son, Hans Adam, the oldest of his five children. But he retained the ceremonial role of head of state and continued to meet many well-wishers every year during the festivities marking his birthday on Aug 16, a public holiday.

The constitution gave him the right to veto any piece of legislation. But throughout his reign, he used the veto only once, to kill a law on hunting rights. "It was a silly law. It would have turned every garden into a shooting ground," he explained.

Born in 1906 at Frauenthal Castle, Austria, he took office in 1938, succeeding his uncle, Prince Franz. Franz Josef took over a country so poor that the government once tried in vain to mortgage the government-cum-prison building, and his father had sold part of the family jewels to bail the government out.

The young prince, a nephew of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand — whose assassination in Sarajevo triggered World War I — faced his first challenge in 1938, after Austria became the Nazi Reich.



Prince Franz Josef II (Reuters wirephoto)

Psychiatrist shot: The head of the psychiatry department at Rome's Cello Military Hospital was shot and seriously wounded today in the hallway of his home in an eastern district of the city, police said. Police and Pasquale Pede, 37, head of the psychiatry department of the Cello Military Hospital, was in serious condition with three bullet wounds in the legs and abdomen.

They said a bald man in a green overcoat, accompanied by a woman, shot Pede in the hallway of his apartment building in the Monte Sacro district of eastern Rome as he was leaving his home around 9 a.m. (0800 GMT) (UPI).

Rubbish heap found in crater: An Italian scientist who explored the crater of Mount Vesuvius was horrified to find discarded soft-drink cans, old tires and even the rusting hull of a Fiat 500 car. Ines Albergo, who descended 350 metres (1,150 feet) into the mouth of the dormant volcano, told the Rome newspaper Il Tempo: "People throw things just to hear the noise. They risk transforming the volcano into an enormous rubbish heap, because it would be crazy to try and pull all that mess out."

Vesuvius has been quiet since an eruption in AD 79 which buried the Roman town of Pompeii. (Reuters)

3 die in prison rebellion: Seven prisoners and one hostage were killed today when police put down a rebellion in a prison in southern Brazil, television reports said. Eight prisoners seized about 50 hostages yesterday in the central penitentiary of Parana just outside Curitiba.

Officials said the prisoners were armed with revolvers and took prison workers hostage in the refectory at lunchtime. They demanded an armoured car, two vehicles, sub-machineguns and revolvers so that they could flee. (Reuters)

British census: People living in Britain will have to give details of their race and ethnic background in the 1991 census, it was officially announced in London today.

British Health Secretary, Kenneth Clarke, said in a written reply to the House of Commons that the information would be taken in confidence and that names would be kept off computers, and the forms kept secret for a 100 years.

He disclosed that a follow-up survey to a census taken carried out in different parts of the country showed that less than 0.5 per cent refuse to take part because of the ethnic question. (Kuna)

2 die in copter crash: A small helicopter crashed yesterday on a strip of cement at the edge of an airport in southeastern Italy, killing a flight instructor and his student.

The two-seat helicopter had been in flight for only a few minutes before it plunged to the ground in Pescara and burst into flames, the Italian news agency Ansa reported. The victims were both Italian. The instructor, who had more than 10,000 hours of flight experience, apparently attempted an emergency landing after realising there was a problem with the aircraft, but the exact reason for the crash was unknown, the agency said. (AP)

Gorilla attacker judged insane: A man who leaped into a Melbourne zoo gorilla pen and attacked the apes was committed to a mental institution today, while police checked reports that his father had been slain.

Zoo staff said the 27-year-old man jumped into the gorilla enclosure yesterday and chased Bessy, an adult female, while making monkey sounds and beating his chest with his fists.

The man punched and kicked the terrified primate and drove a 5-year-old baby male, Muzun, into a corner. He was finally trapped in a pen until police arrived, zoo spokeswoman Judith Henkey said. (AP)

House OKs sanctions: The House of Representatives yesterday passed legislation requiring the president to impose sanctions against any nation that uses chemical or biological weapons.

The bill, adopted by voice vote and sent to the Senate, also provides for sanctions against foreign companies that knowingly contribute to a country's development or use of such weapons.



Vehicle pile-up, 1 dead

Rescue services attend the scene of a 30-vehicle pile-up on the A45 at Stowmarket (112 km) north-east of London Nov 13, one of a spate of accidents caused by a blanket of fog over much of Britain. Police put the casualty figures from the Stowmarket pile-up at one dead, and 18 injured.

And the legislation also puts extra controls on the export of US products that could assist another nation in the production, stockpiling, delivery or use of chemical weapons. (UPI)

Police officer, prison guards held: A dissident police officer who had publicly accused riot squad members of brutality was arrested yesterday while leading a protest against his transfer orders.

Lt Gregory Rockman, another policeman and 11 prison guards who recently joined a new union headed by the mixed-race lieutenant were also arrested, according to Rockman's lawyer.

Police Commissioner Henrie de Witt announced later that Rockman and the police policeman had been suspended from the force. (AP)

Wilder's art collection sold: Eighty-five sculptures, paintings and drawings collected by director and screenwriter Billy Wilder have brought \$3.6 million at auction, Christie's said.

The highest price paid among the diverse collection of impressionist and modern works was 4.84 million for a 1921 pastel by Pablo Picasso, "Classic Head of a Woman," which was not a record.

Among the 11 artists whose works sold yesterday for record prices were Balthus, whose oil painting "La Toilette" brought 2.09 million, Ernst Ludwig Kirschner, whose oil painting "Two Nudes On a Sofa" went for 1.54 million, and Marino Marini, whose bronze sculpture, "Little Rider," sold for \$671,000, the auction house said. (AP)

Quake-damaged bridge tour: Some 40,000 tickets went on sale yesterday for public inspection of the Bay Bridge, the 53-year-old span linking San Francisco and Oakland that was substantially damaged nearly a month ago by an earthquake.

The October 17 quake collapsed a 50-foot (15 metre) section of the roadway, closing the bridge to about a quarter-million motorists who use it each day. Repairs are expected to be completed late this week, with public tours — led by California governor George Deukmejian — to the repaired section on Thursday. The double-decker bridge is scheduled to re-open to traffic on Friday. (Reuters)

12 Peruvians killed: Suspected Maoist guerrillas killed six people yesterday in apparent reprisal for voting in Peru's municipal elections, police said, bringing to 13 the number of people killed in attacks linked to the voting.

Voters in Lima ignored the guerrilla threats and packed the polls on Sunday to elect television magnate Ricardo Belmont, 44, who had no previous experience in government, as their mayor in a victory that stunned Peru's political establishment.

Belmont's triumph underscored the social Gulf between Lima, with its eight colour television channels and TV-addicted poor and middle-class, and the Andean highlands where life for millions of people has changed little for generations. (Reuters)

New campaign launched

War victims

GENEVA, Nov 14, (Kuna): In response to the growing number of civilian victims of war, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement today launched a new campaign for victims of war — to increase awareness of the plight of the victims and raise funds for their assistance.

Addressing newsmen, the director of the "world campaign for the protection of war victims 1990-1991," Leon Davico said the idea of a separate campaign was in response to the need for additional effort to cope with the rapidly rising number of war victims.

Citing an example, he said there were 160,000 civilians without legs in Afghanistan alone. The steering committee of the campaign secretariat has representatives from the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) along with seven national societies.

The seven comprise those from Sweden and Finland, who have taken the initiative, and the societies of Libya, Swaziland, Cuba, Malaysia and Bulgaria.

Asked about the inclusion of Libya and Cuba in the committee, the campaign director said it was essential to separate politics from the movement and added that the two national societies had been "extremely co-operative."

In the new deal for war victims being envisaged by the movement, a major effort is to be made in the conflict zones to ensure that both combatants and non-combatants are aware of the rights of civilians to protection of their life and property.

Funds raised during the campaign will be spent on practical aid to those caught in fighting. Among the projects being considered are new artificial limbs for those crippled by mines, immunisation of children and pregnant women in war zones, more aid to repatriation of prisoners of war and re-unification of families.

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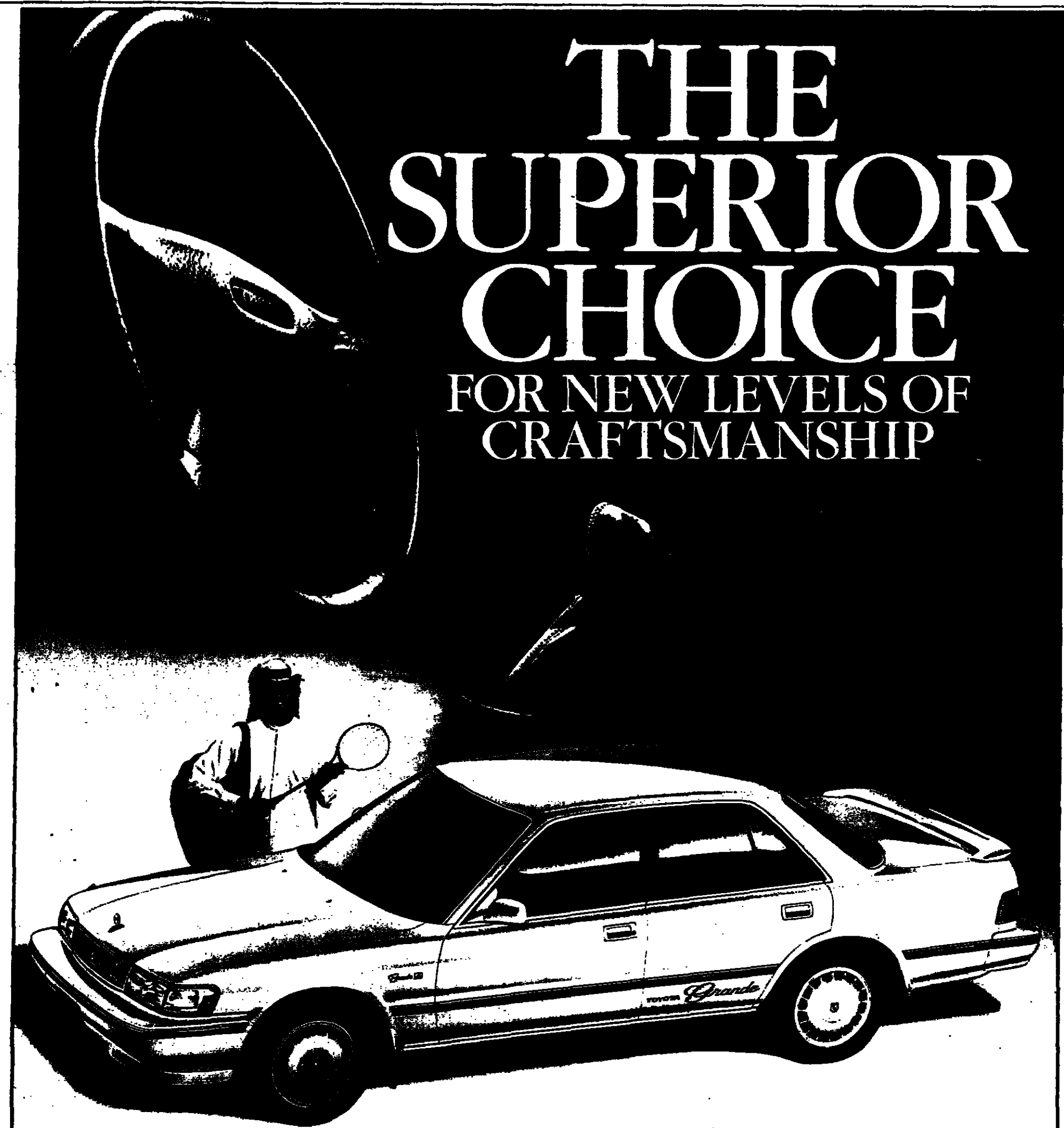
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Walesa gestures during a ceremony honouring him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. (Reuter wirephoto)



Bush looks around the translator as Walesa is being applauded on receiving the medal. (Reuter wirephoto)

Bush honours Walesa

\$657m US aid for Poland

WASHINGTON, Nov 14, (Agencies): President George Bush bestowed the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Lech Walesa in an emotional White House ceremony yesterday and promised "American aid has begun and more is coming," to Poland.

"Lech Walesa showed how one individual could inspire in others a faith so powerful that it vindicated itself, and changed the course of a nation," Bush said, referring to the 1981 martial law crackdown against the first free trade union in the Soviet bloc and its rise to power this year.

"History may make men, but Lech Walesa has made history," Bush said.

The Polish trade union leader arrived in Washington as the Senate reached a compromise on a plan to give \$657 million in aid to Poland and \$65 million to Hungary, ending a long battle over the proper amount of aid to those countries.

At the White House, Walesa's eyes filled with tears as Bush seated him in a chair with the Solidarity banner draped across it and recalled the martial law crackdown and the 11 months that Walesa spent incarcerated in a remote hunting lodge.

"One of the greatest dreams of my life has just

been fulfilled," Walesa said in thanking Bush.

The United States, he said, is a democratic example for nations around the world.

The crowd of 200 politicians, labour leaders and others packed into East Room gave Walesa a standing ovation on his entrance with the President. Bush, too, joined in the applause, which became rhythmic.

Walesa blinked back tears as Bush recounted how Walesa was taken off to prison on the night of Dec 13, 1981 after making "the sign of the cross on the foreheads of his sleeping children." A translator whispered Bush's words into Walesa's ear.

Walesa, in a television interview on his first full day in the United States, spoke today of his vision of a United Europe in the 21st century — but said economic unity must precede political integration.

"Let's not have any artificial divisions in the 21st century," the Solidarity leader said in an interview on ABC television, adding such divisions should be resolved "by uniting Europe, first of all in economic unity and from the economic unity a political unity will emerge."

But he warned that if a political unity were attempted before an economic unity "it will become a threat."

Chinese army told to obey the party

BEIJING, Nov 14, (Reuters): China's new military leader has called on the army to show absolute obedience to the Communist Party amid indications of opposition within the military to the use of the army to crush democracy protests in June.

The Liberation Army Daily newspaper today quoted Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin as telling an expanded meeting of the party's central military commission that the lesson of history was that the party must have absolute control over the army.

Jiang, who has no military experience, took over as head of the powerful commission last Thursday, replacing top leader Deng Xiaoping.

"We must strengthen political work and guarantee the party's absolute control over the army. At all times we must unwaveringly build up the party at all levels of the army," he said in the speech delivered on Sunday.

Although Deng has retired, his theories and principles must remain the basis for building up the army, Jiang said in the speech, his first in his new post.

Deng also addressed the commission, saying Jiang was qualified to be their new chief and reminding them the People's Liberation Army should be loyal to the party, the state, socialism and the people.

A Western diplomat said Deng's reappearance before the commission after his retirement indicated unresolved problems.

Since June, politics have again been stressed above professionalism.

Activists get asylum

TAIPEI, Nov 14, (AP): Taiwan will give political asylum to three dissidents who fled mainland China after participating in the crushed pro-democracy movement, a senior official said today.

Zhang Gang, Zhou Qiang and Wang Longmeng, arrived in Taiwan from China on Oct 29, by fishing boat with the help of a Taiwanese businessman.

Since then, the three Chinese activists have been held in the Taiwan garrison command's detention centre about 100 kilometres (60 miles) southeast of Taipei, pending review of their case.

Wang Yuan-Jen, director of the exit and entry bureau, said investigators verified that the men were active supporters of the pro-democracy movement and would be allowed to resettle in Taiwan.

Greek parties differ Florakis' turn

ATHENS, Nov 14, (AP): Communist leader Harilaos Florakis received a presidential mandate yesterday to try to form a government, after the Conservatives and Socialists each failed.

With the three major parties differing on the nature and lifespan of any governing alliance, it was expected that Florakis too would fail to create an administration that would enjoy the support of a parliamentary majority.

Conservative leader Constantine Mitsotakis, whose New Democracy Party won the most parliamentary seats in Nov 5 elections but missed a majority, met with former Socialist premier Andreas Papandreu and Florakis last week but failed to persuade them to join a short-term administration.

Papandreu returned his own three-day exploratory mandate to President Christos Sartzetakis earlier yesterday.

If Florakis fails to form a coalition, President Sartzetakis will call the three major parties' leaders together to try form a joint administration. If they again disagree, he will call the third set of elections this year.

Florakis said that the coalition of the left and progress supports a broad-based government. However, it has placed stiff conditions on joining any union — including the removal of US military bases from Greece and the rejection of a US request for the extradition of a suspected Palestinian.

New Democracy is not likely to agree to the coalition's demands, as it advocates closer ties with the United States.

Shots fired at Japan traders

Beijing asked to probe

BEIJING, Nov 14, (AP): Japan's embassy in Beijing has asked the Chinese government to investigate reports of shots fired at Japanese businessmen there and an anonymous letter threatening to kill Japanese citizens, sources said today.

The Japanese believe gunshots were fired at them while they were playing golf north of Beijing on Sunday, a Japanese diplomat said.

About 170 people, most of them Japanese, were playing golf just before lunchtime when some heard what sounded like bullets whizzing by, said the diplomat, who refused to be identified further.

The embassy believes "more than one" shot was fired because the golf course is next to a shooting range, and several people reported hearing the sounds, the diplomat said.

Witnesses, however, reported hearing two bursts of machine gunfire and believed 20-30 shots were fired, other Japanese sources said.

Some of the bullets hit trees on the Beijing golf club near the gol-

fers, the sources said.

The shooting range is about 2 kms (1.2 miles) from the golf course, and people can rent handguns, rifles and machine guns for target practice.

The businessmen who heard the shots were from the Beijing office of Toyota Motor Corp., the sources said.

Toyota's Beijing office recently received a threatening letter containing a bullet and an anonymous note, the diplomat said.

He would not disclose the contents of the note or say when it was received, but the Japanese sources quoted it as saying: "Now that the martial law troops are gone, our time has come. Go back to Japan. From now, we will kill you Japanese."

The Japanese embassy has called on China's public security and foreign ministries to investigate the cases and ensure the safety of Japanese in Beijing, the diplomat said.

Premier Li Peng said today before leaving on a tour of South Asian countries that Beijing authorities had begun a probe into the shooting.



Yakovlev (right) being shown the way into a Japan-Soviet parliamentarians league meeting by Sakurachi at Kensei Memorial Hall, Tokyo. (Reuter wirephoto)

FRG to respect Poland's border

WARSAW, Nov 14, (AP): West Germany and Poland signed a wide-ranging declaration today that opens the way for economic co-operation and reiterates West German commitment to respect Poland's western border.

The 78-point document followed months of negotiations and marked the high point of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's five-day visit that both sides hope will lead to better relations between the two countries.

Kohl, the first West German leader to visit Poland since 1977, and the new Solidarity Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki signed the joint declaration that calls for healing "the wounds of the past through understanding and reconciliation."

The ceremony was broadcast live on Polish television and followed a morning visit by Kohl to the Auschwitz concentration camp.

The question of eventual reunification

of the two German states is being openly discussed in Warsaw as leaders watch East German officials relax travel rules and put in place reform-minded leaders. In a meeting with members of parliament on Monday, Kohl said Poland would benefit from a unified Germany.

East German leader Egon Krenz has said reunification is not on the agenda.

The joint declaration signed today repeats West Germany's pledge in a 1970 treaty to respect the Oder and Neisse rivers

as Poland's western border.

It expresses the will of both sides to carry out 11 agreements signed earlier during the visit.

Of major importance to Poland are clauses in which West Germany says it will strive to ensure that Poland's \$39 billion foreign debt is rescheduled "under a long-term arrangement on terms that take the greatest possibility account of the country's ability to pay."

Soviet party role in question

MOSCOW, Nov 14, (Agencies): Soviet lawmakers said today a discussion reviewing the Communist Party's role as the sole power in the country, but did agree to hold a second congress of People's Deputies next month.

The furious debate yesterday touched on the major political question of the country and went to the heart of the Soviet political system, because only the Congress of People's Deputies can change the constitution and delete the sentence giving the party the source of its authority.

The Supreme Soviet then adopted the proposal made by President Mikhail Gorbachev to convene the congress on Dec 12 in order to work out radical measures to improve the ailing economy and prepare the 13th five-year plan (1991-1995) based on decentralised principles of factories and plants financing themselves.

A draft law lifting most Soviet travel restrictions that passed its first legislative hurdle yesterday could unleash a flood of a half million emigrants, Tass reported.

The proposed law "is revolutionary for Soviet society" and considered by many to be nearly as radical as East Germany's recent liberalization of travel rules, the official news agency said.

The bill, which was given preliminary approval by the Supreme Soviet legislature yesterday, formalizes many changes that have already been put into practice.

Soviet legislators yesterday approved trial by jury for serious crimes in the most substantive change in Soviet legal system since the revolution.

Soviet courts have consisted of a judge and two people's assessors, who can question witnesses and defendants and hands down the verdict.

But yesterday the Supreme Soviet voted unanimously to "introduce for the first time in Soviet history trial by jury" for crimes carrying death penalty or 15 years imprisonment.

In legislation that may be even more far reaching, the new legislation allows defence lawyers to begin representing clients during the investigation of the crime by police.

Under earlier criminal procedure, defence lawyers could not begin work until police investigators and the prosecutor had prepared the charges and the case.

"The prosecutors and defence lawyer should be equal participants in a court trial," Tass said summing up the new change.

The changes will be put into effect on Dec 1.

Sofia plans party purge

SOFIA, Nov 14, (AP): The Communist Party's ruling politburo restored party membership to 11 reform activist yesterday, as diplomats and Bulgarian sources predicted a purge of senior party members.

Members of the 10-man politburo are the main target of the purge, but changes also are expected in the government, the sources said on condition of anonymity.

The developments follow the surprise resignation of veteran party chief Todor Zhivkov, 78, who lost all his political offices Friday at a session of the policy-setting central committee.

Zhivkov, who led the party for 35 years, was succeeded by longtime Foreign Minister Petar Mladenov, 53, in what a diplomat called a development as unexpected as "a win in the lottery."

Berlin Wall here to stay: GDR premier

Demonstrations for reforms continue

BERLIN, Nov 14, (AP): East Germany's new premier said the Berlin Wall must remain standing to keep Aids, crime, drugs and other Western problems out of his communist country, a newspaper reported today.

Hans Modrow, a reformer chosen by parliament to lead the government, had called yesterday for a coalition government but gave no indication the opposition would be part of it.

Protesters seeking further democratic reforms in the communist-ruled nation demonstrated throughout the nation later yesterday following a weekend of revelry celebrating the lifting of travel restric-

tions. Unfettered passage through the Berlin Wall was allowed for the first time since its construction in 1961, and millions of East Germans streamed into West Berlin, many for the first time in their lives. Most returned to their homes by Monday.

Modrow was chosen in a session of unprecedented liveliness in East Germany's parliament. Lawmakers, long subservient to the communist leadership, voted by secret ballot for the first time and endorsed opposition calls for free elections. They also elected their first non-communist parliament speaker.



March for free polls

As many as 200,000 East Germans marched in Leipzig demanding free elections. The protestors demanded democracy despite the election yesterday.

day of reformist Hans Modrow as prime minister. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sidelights

Mitterrand invites: President Francois Mitterrand has invited the leaders of the European Economic Community countries to a special meeting Saturday in Paris to discuss the rapidly changing situation in Europe, the presidential palace announced yesterday.

Jacques Delors, president of the European Economic Commission, the executive body of the common market, also will attend, the presidential statement said.

Mitterrand is the current president of the European Economic Community under the six-month rotating system. His term will end with the European summit scheduled Dec 8-9 in Strasbourg. The special meeting will be Saturday evening at the Elysee palace.

EEC to examine needs: European Economic Community finance ministers instructed a high-level committee to take stock of the needs of Poland, Hungary and East Germany for economic aid ahead of a meeting of EEC leaders in Paris on Saturday.

French Finance Minister Pierre Bergeyot told a news conference today that the EEC's monetary committee had been asked to draw up an inventory of all bilateral and multilateral aid that had gone to Poland and Hungary so far.

The committee, which groups senior central bank and Finance Ministry officials from each member state, would also include East Germany in its assessment of future needs for aid to assist reform-minded East European nations in restructuring their economies along more market-oriented lines.

"East Germany is included in the inventory of needs for aid in Eastern European countries we have asked the monetary committee to draw up," said Bergeyot, who chaired the meeting of EEC finance ministers. (Reuters)

Thatcher warns: Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called for measured Western response to rapid political change in Eastern Europe and urged the EEC to hold out a helping hand to the bloc's emerging democracies, news reports said.

Thatcher also communicated with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to assure him the west did not intend to "push" East Germany from the Warsaw Pact, according to independent television News and British Domestic News Agency Press Association.

"Freedom (is) once more on the offensive," Thatcher said in a speech yesterday at the Lord Mayor's banquet, but "times of great change are times of great uncertainty, even danger."

She expressed wonder at the extent and speed of reforms in the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary and East Germany, and said, "the way in which we in the West respond to these historic changes could be crucial in determining their success." (AP)

EEC official stresses aid urgency: A leading official of the European Economic Community today urged Western industrialised nations to boost their aid to Eastern Europe in upcoming months, a spokesman said in Hakone, Japan.

Vice President Frans Andriessen, in a brief meeting with Japan's Minister of International Trade Hikaru Matsunaga, said urgent action was needed to help relieve the economic crisis in Poland, EEC spokesman Nico Wegter said.

He said the common market hoped to gain the support of other Western nations for a 200 million ECU (European Currency Unit) (\$210 million) "food supply action plan" next year to supplement a current food aid project.

"We as the EEC consider our role as both a coordinating one and a stimulating one. We would like to inspire all partners to contribute," Wegter said. (AP)

W. Germans told 'remain vigilant': The dramatic changes under way in East Germany and other Eastern European states are unlikely to stop those countries spying on West Germany, Interior Minister Wolfgang Schauble said today.

"Remain vigilant," he told officials of the West German counter-intelligence service at the official opening of their new headquarters in Cologne.

West Germany has long been the main target of East Germany's spymasters, who placed agents in the highest reaches of government. Former Chancellor Willy Brandt was forced to resign in 1974 after a spy was unmasked in his office.

"I cannot tell you how developments in that part of the world that we have until now called the eastern bloc will affect your work," Schauble said. "We still cannot predict how their intelligence services will behave towards us in the longer term." (Reuters)

Gorby aide meets Akihito, calls for more co-operation with Japan

TOKYO, Nov 14, (AP): A close adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev met today with Emperor Akihito and called for more co-operation between Japan and the Soviet Union, officials said.

Alexander Yakovlev, a Soviet politburo member, conveyed a message to the emperor from Gorbachev, saying the two countries should co-operate more in solving world problems, including environmental issues, an imperial household agency official said.

The official would not comment on news reports that Yakovlev had invited Akihito to visit the Soviet Union.

Yakovlev, considered an architect of Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or openness, is the first

Soviet parliamentary official to meet with a Japanese emperor in 20 years, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Yakovlev met yesterday with Japanese government and party officials and warned them that Japan was being left behind in the climate of warming East-West relations. Foreign Ministry officials said. They said he urged them to improve ties with the Soviet Union without waiting for settlement of a long-standing territorial dispute.

Japan has refused to make substantial improvements in its economic ties with the Soviet Union until Moscow returns a group of islands it seized off northern Japan in the closing days of World War II. Moscow has maintained that overall

bilateral relations should improve before a final settlement of the territorial issue is made.

Ichiro Ozawa, secretary general of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, said today that Yakovlev had talked to him about a possible "third route" toward improvement of Japan-Soviet ties.

But Japanese officials said they doubted that such an approach would deal directly with the territorial issue.

"The other side probably isn't able to compromise its principles, and we aren't able to compromise ours," Kyoto news service quoted Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu as telling Japanese reporters today.

Some deputies even called for stripping the constitution of a clause that designates the country "socialist."

The Communist Party daily newspaper Neues Deutschland acknowledged today the country is in a "deep crisis," but also said it is experiencing an "awakening" leading towards change.

A leader of East Germany's biggest opposition group, New Forum, said today the movement could work with a revamped communist party but that naming Modrow premier was not enough.

Modrow, 61, is an anti-establishment communist figure who built his power base from his former position as Dresden's Communist Party chief. He replaced Willi Stoph, who resigned last week along with his entire 44-member cabinet.

The new premier supports step-by-step economic reforms including the scaling down of East Germany's government bureaucracy.

He said the government has no intention of tearing down the Berlin Wall, despite carving new passages through it over the past five days in an effort to halt an exodus of refugees to the West and mounting public protests.

"In our country there is little criminal activity... cases of Aids and drugs are virtually unknown. Our people are asking themselves why they shouldn't just leave that as it is," West Germany's Bild newspaper quoted Modrow as saying.

He said doing away with the barrier completely could cause "chaos," echoing the communist line that the wall was designed to protect East Germany from threats of the West.

Modrow is to present his cabinet on Friday. The official ADN news agency quoted him as saying the country needs a "real coalition government."

Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators gathered around the nation, spurred by last week's opening of East Germany's borders with the West. They shouted anti-communist slogans and demanded an end to the party's monopoly of power.

In the city of Leipzig, about 300,000 people paraded through the streets in what has become a Monday night ritual, chanting, "we are the people."

Another 100,000 demonstrated in Dresden, 50,000 in Karl Marx Stadt and thousands of others in other cities. Some 10,000 demonstrated in Schwerin after signing a petition demanding a referendum on a constitutional article that gives the communist party control of the government.

Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt said yesterday he hopes some of the crumbling Berlin Wall will stand permanently as a reminder of the cold war era.

"A part of it should be allowed to remain standing, to serve as something of a museum," said Brandt, who was mayor of West Berlin when the wall was erected in 1961.

Former East German leader Erich Honecker is recovering from a serious operation at his home, an official party newspaper reported today.

The US Senate called last night for destruction of the Berlin Wall and free elections in East Germany.

It approved by voice vote a resolution welcoming the opening of the wall and commending the people of Berlin for their desire for freedom... and their role in bringing about the opening of the wall.

15/11/89

Riots in India leave many Muslims destitute

BHAGALPUR, India, Nov 14, (Reuters): For Mohammad Wasi national elections later this month will be just a footnote to the massacre he survived in this north Indian town.

He has abandoned his farm for a refugee camp at a school guarded by heavily armed police, fearing a return of Hindu mobs to this dusty town in the state of Bihar.

Wasi, 79, was a survivor of Hindu-Muslim riots in Bhagalpur and surrounding areas in the final week of October. The official death toll was more than 300. Local people say it was far higher.

Troops called in after four days of carnage rescued Wasi and others at the farm and escorted them to the refugee camp.

"I never dreamed that one day I would be a

refugee," he said.

Hindu-Muslim violence is common in north India but has intensified significantly in recent weeks in the run-up to general elections which begin on November 22.

The root cause of the violence is a project by Hindu fundamentalists to build a temple next to a mosque in Ayodhya in neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state.

Last Thursday, amid massive security, fundamentalist Hindus started foundation stone ceremonies for the temple next to a 16th century mosque they believe was built on the site of a demolished temple marking the birthplace of their god Rama.

India's 100 million Muslim minority is deeply upset about what they see as a symbol of rising Hindu fundamentalism that threatens

their way of life.

The influential imam of Delhi, Syed Abdulla Bukhari, has told Muslims not to vote for Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party. He and many other Muslims blame Rajiv for causing the violence by refusing to halt the Ayodhya ceremonies despite legal disputes over the boundaries of the mosque.

At the time of the October riots in Bhagalpur an army spokesman said the violence there was provoked by a procession of Hindus determined to march to Uttar Pradesh to join in the temple-building. A riot erupted after the Hindus shouted anti-Muslim slogans as they passed a mosque.

About 30,000 people, including 8,000 Hindus, now live in refugee camps across the

town. Officials said Muslims had suffered worst.

Muslims like Wasi said the elections meant nothing to them, their main concern being safety.

"They burned down the poorer Muslim houses first and then attacked mine where 100 people took shelter upstairs," he said.

"We started saying prayers thinking we would all be dead as the mob looted everything and tried to set fire to the house. Then the army troops came and rescued us."

The makeshift camp is noisy with crying babies, shrieking children and men and women jostling as food is distributed.

"I don't think I ever will be able to go back to my village. We will never be safe there," Wasi said.

A weeping middle-aged woman moved about searching for her missing husband. "I know he is not dead," she sobbed.

She comes from Muslim Tamauni, now a ghost village 18 km (11 miles) from Bhagalpur, where most houses have been burned or pulled down.

The mosque at the entrance to the village is destroyed, with Hindu saffron flags fluttering over the ruins. Torn and half burnt pages of the Holy Quran littered the premises.

"The Hindus in Pramadpur (a neighbouring village) whom we see everyday, attacked us. They killed 11 people and looted every house," Mohammad Salimuddin said. "How can we live in Tamauni?"

"We never attacked them," said Bhudev Singh, the Hindu head of pramadpur. "It is

the work of outsiders."

"If they think they are not safe in Tamauni, they can go to Pakistan," said Vijay Jha, a Hindu farmer.

Abbas Reza, just eight years old, was still in hospital.

"They killed my mother, then my elder sister and my younger brother. My daddy is

alive because he was not at home," he said. On the next bed lay Mallika Begum, her feet chopped off, the lone survivor of a massacre in Chandhari village where 100 people were killed. Officials said only 26 bodies were found.

In the narrow streets of Bhagalpur, police vehicles with loudspeakers blared: "Please return the loot. No action will be taken against you." People listened impassively.



Tribute to Nehru

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi pays tribute at a memorial in New Delhi to late Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru during a prayer meeting on the latter's birth centenary. (Reuters wirephoto)

Riots main issue in polls

NEW DELHI, Nov 14, (Reuters): Surging Hindu-Muslim strife has thrown predictions about the outcome of next week's Indian elections into complete confusion, analysts and diplomats said today.

"The communal issue has become the foremost issue in the elections," said leading Indian pollster Prannoy Roy.

"The whole thing is confusing. Tremendous changes are going on that we don't normally see at this stage," he said. Voting starts on Nov 22.

"All our predictions are out of the window, I think," an ambassador said. "The only advice I can give is not to believe anything anyone tells you and wait for the results."

Most election analysts have been predicting that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party, which has ruled for all but two of India's 42 years of independence, will lose its huge parliamentary majority.

But they expected Congress would still be the biggest single party in Parliament and would form the next government in a country which proclaims itself the world's largest democracy.

Religious tension came to a head on Nov 9 when fundamentalist Hindus laid the foundation stone of a new temple next to an old mosque in the electoral hotbed northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

The fundamentalist aim is to demolish the 16th-century mosque in the town of Ayodhya, in the belief it was built on the site of a temple marking the birthplace of the Hindu deity Ram.

The influential imam of Delhi, Syed Abdulla Bukhari, has told Muslims to vote against the Congress Party, saying it allowed the ceremonies to go ahead in a bid to win votes among the 650 million Hindu majority.

"The Muslim vote is going to the opposition, but the question is how many Hindu votes is Congress picking up," said Roy.

The religious strife, in which hundreds have been killed, erupted again today.

Officials in northern Bihar state said at least five people were killed in Bhagalpur, scene of ferocious violence in late October when more than 200 people were killed.

The violence may also have damaged the opposition campaign. Behind the fundamentalists in Ayodhya was the Hindu chauvinist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which has worked out a deal with other opposition parties to put up single candidates against Congress in most constituencies.

The BJP's gleeful attitude over what Hindu fundamentalists called a magnificent victory in Ayodhya has upset Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the main opposition leader who is busily courting the votes of India's 100 million Muslims.

Yashwanth Sinha, spokesman for Singh's Janata Dal Party, said his leader rejected a BJP invitation for a joint campaign.

"We cannot have a joint campaign because we do not agree on policies, especially on Muslims," Sinha said.

Benazir greets Li Peng on arrival at Islamabad

Afghan issue to feature in Pak-China talks

ISLAMABAD, Nov 14, (AP): Huge banners lauding the nation's traditional close ties with China heralded Chinese Premier Li Peng's arrival today, on his first official trip abroad since the crackdown on the democracy movement.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto greeted Li at Islamabad airport, to the boom of a 21-gun salute.

Li's talks with Benazir, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and other Pakistani officials are expected to centre on the 11-year-old war in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Another of Pakistan's close allies, the United States, has imposed sanctions against China, in response to the People's Liberation Army's violent suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing last June.

But Pakistan, which has not publicly criticised Chinese leaders, has refused to impose trade or diplomatic embargoes since the

crackdown. Pakistan was the first country to recognise the People's Republic of China after its emergence in 1949. The Pakistani city of Karachi was China's first international air link. Benazir's first official trip after taking office last December was to Beijing.

Utility poles and buildings were festooned today with 10-foot (three-metre) banners bearing such slogans as: "The people of Pakistan highly respect their friend Li Peng," and "Pak-China friendship is stronger and higher than the Karakoram," the rugged mountain range along their common border.

Beijing and Washington are military sponsors of Pakistan, which with their help supports Afghan anti-communist rebels who have fought successive Soviet-backed governments in Kabul.

Pakistan has taken in 3.5 million Afghan war refugees since 1979, when Soviet soldiers

intervened in the bloody civil war. Moscow completed the withdrawal of some 103,000 combat troops from Afghanistan last February, in line with a United Nations accord.

Although US supplies continue to flow to the rebels via Pakistan, China has since plugged its weapons pipeline. The Kremlin continues to supply the Afghan government.

Local English-language newspapers proclaiming Li's arrival made no mention of the bloodshed in Beijing earlier this year, when soldiers slew hundreds, perhaps thousands of demonstrators and bystanders.

On the eve of Li's arrival, a Pakistani diplomat said Sino-Pakistani relations have weathered extreme political changes in both nations, such as successive military rulers in Islamabad and the late chairman of the Chinese Communist Party Mao Tse-tung's Cultural Revolution, which lasted from 1966-1976.



Li Peng: welcome



Opening ceremony

Folk dancers from east India's state of West Bengal perform during the opening ceremony of the 8th Asian Track and Field meet in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

Anti-dog campaign

DHAKA, Nov 14, (AP): Authorities are killing stray dogs in an effort to exterminate an estimated 80,000 mongrels on the streets of Dhaka.

Dr Rezaul Karim, chief veterinarian, said the strays were viewed as a threat to public health and that eight dog-killing squads had killed more than 600 dogs since Oct 1.

The dogs are caught by large iron traps, and a solution of magnesium sulphate is injected into the heart, killing the animals within two minutes, said a municipal corporation veterinarian who spoke on condition of anonymity.

There is no dependable estimate of the dog population of the capital, Bangladesh's largest city.

73 trapped in flooded shaft

57 escape Indian mine mishap

CALCUTTA, Nov 14, (UPI): Rescue workers today pumped oxygen and dropped food through a narrow hole to 73 men trapped in a flooded coal mine in West Bengal as water pumps made little progress in draining the 400-foot-deep (120m) shaft, officials and reports said.

An underground wall collapsed during a blasting operation yesterday causing about 1.5 million gallons (5.5 million litres) of water to pour into two pits of the Mahavir colliery in Raniganj, 90 miles west of Calcutta.

The 71 men were huddled on high ground in an unflooded section of the mine and were in good spirits, with workers managing to send in food and messages through a small hole, said Tarun Dutt, the state's chief secretary.

The Press Trust of India said rescue personnel had drilled a 6-inch-wide (15 cm) hole, allowing

oxygen to be pumped into the cavern operated by Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

Dutt reported that 57 miners working near the entrance of the pit had escaped when the flash flood occurred, but the others were snared deeper in the mine, some 400 feet (120 m) below ground.

Dutt said rescue personnel brought in two additional industrial water pumps to supplement six already being used to reduce the water level, but predicted it would be some time before the miners could be safely extracted.

The Press Trust said the water level had only dropped one inch in the shaft, and quoted an official as saying the water "was not receding satisfactorily."

The Times of India reported that 25 houses in a nearby village shifted due to the underground flood.

Gandhi effigy burnt in Dhaka

Temple protest

DHAKA, Nov 14, (Reuters): Bangladeshi demonstrators burned an effigy of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today in protest at a decision to build a Hindu temple near a 16th-century mosque in northern India.

The protesters, about 2,500 members of the fundamentalist Zaker party, chanted: "Stop spilling Muslim blood" and "Rajiv, stay away from Babri Mosque."

Members of a small political group, Pragatisil Ganotantrik Shakti, staged a noisy demonstration about 500 metres from the Indian high commission.

There were no injuries or arrests.

The protests took place despite an appeal by President Hussain Muhammad Ershad for communal harmony in Bangladesh.

"We are worried at the hap-

penings in the neighbouring country but we must prove that people of Bangladesh have risen above communalism," he told a rally in the northern district of Jamalpur yesterday.

"We have lived in excellent harmony between religious groups and hope the fallout (from incidents in India) will not corrupt the air in this country," state television quoted him as saying.

Muslims view the decision to build a temple of Hindu deity Ram near the mosque in Ayodhya as desecration.

Hundreds have died as a surge of Hindu revivalism has triggered bloody riots against Muslims in north India.

Dhaka authorities reinforced security around the Indian high commission as Muslim fundamentalists threatened more protests this week.

W. Germany, Iraq, India join hands

Plan to build Awacs

WASHINGTON, Nov 14, (Kuna): West Germany, Iraq and India may jointly develop an airborne reconnaissance (Awacs) jet, according to "Defense and Foreign Affairs" weekly.

The weekly reliable newsletter on international military trends, disclosed that "preliminary fevers" for the aircraft venture were received in New Delhi several weeks ago.

The weekly said the co-development project had been suggested by senior Iraqi military officers in talks with high-ranking West German government officials.

The most likely plane for the airborne early warning and control (Awacs) is the Airbus-300, a civilian airliner made by the European Airbus Consortium, the newsletter said.

While details remain scarce, Baghdad is reportedly supplying most of the money, Germany the technical expertise and India the overall coordination for the joint project.

Mail has no frontiers: Murthy

WASHINGTON, Nov 14, (AP): International mail "has no frontiers," K.R. Murthy of India declared yesterday as he opened the 20th congress of the Universal Postal Union.

President George Bush, welcoming delegates from nearly 170 nations to the session, said that the world-wide mail system remains essential despite the growth in electronic communications.

"The need to communicate by mail across national frontiers—despite the search of time and the advent of telecommunications—has remained constant," Bush told the formal opening session of the con-

gress. "Only the postal system can reach and serve every man, woman and child on this planet every day and do so at a price that is in their reach," said US Postmaster General Anthony M. Frank.

The delegates will wrestle with international mail agreements and disputes for the next five weeks in a meeting held only every five years. This is the first time since 1897 that the congress has been held in the United States.

If the international postal system is to prosper, there is a compelling need for the progress of all members, said

Murthy, dean of the meeting and former Director-General of the Indian Postal Service.

Representatives come from nations with different goals and needs, Murthy observed, with some nations needing to employ more technological advances and others needing to update antiquated systems.

As "we approach the turn of the century, we suddenly find many rural communities and hitherto predominately agricultural nations newly involved in industry, trade and commerce in ever-increasing measure," said Murthy.

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Low cultural level of university students cause for anxiety

Broad knowledge, discussion, extra activity proposed

THE cultural level of university students caused anxiety to the university administration which tried to upgrade this level by giving students the opportunity to study a number of optional courses.

By this method, the university administration hopes that students will benefit from these courses by increasing their general knowledge and backgrounds.

Unfortunately, the cultural level of a student was not evaluated by these courses only but also depended to a great extent on the amount of reading and outside activity.

Enrichment

A local daily interviewed a number of university professors in order to learn the cultural level of university students.

Dr Zainab Ali Al Jaber, a professor at the Education College at Kuwait University, said that a student should develop a broad knowledge. She added it was most important to have a good amount of general information which a student can gain through his education process. She indicated that general information could be enriched with full participation during lectures. Zainab said that most students were

uninterested in effectively joining discussions and giving proposals and opinions at the university due to several reasons.

Work teams

One of the main reasons lay in the fact that most students feel bashful about expressing their opinions, particularly with female students present. She pointed out that most students

fear that their opinions will not be respected by lecturers, so they would rather sit still throughout the lecture.

Dr Zainab added that some lecturers don't permit students to participate, particularly professors who often prefer reading directly from the text. She indicated that long curricula offered at the university decreased students' participation due to lack of time.

She explained that during lectures, she followed the method of forming work teams in which students participated by proposing a problem or an issue which relates to the course.

Regarding the academic level of students, she stated that it is good in general due to the advanced curriculum offered to students during their third and fourth year by the Administration and Planning Section.

She indicated that in general students at Kuwait University show seriousness in their studies, but a small group of students showed negligence. She indicated that negligence may be shown by students who felt that academic certificates were only for decoration.

Some of the students had already found jobs and felt that obtaining high grades was useless.

Duail calls for urgent aid to poor countries

ROME, Nov 14, (KUNA): Head of Kuwait's delegation to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) conference today called for increasing urgent aid to poor countries and persuading creditor countries to write off interest of loans given to poor countries.

Sheikh Ibrahim Duailj Al Sabah, head of the Kuwaiti Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, reaffirmed, in his address to the 25th conference of FAO here, proposals of HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah on writing off part of the debts of the poorest countries and the interest of those debts to help them implement their development projects.

Amendments
Sheikh Ibrahim suggested that the International Monetary Fund should reconsider its strict rules imposed on needy countries, hoping that such amendments would take into consideration the difference between one country and another.

Head of the Kuwaiti delegation recalled the call of HH the Amir to protect the environment, warning that ignoring this issue will threaten humanity.

In his address, Sheikh Ibrahim briefed the conference on Kuwait's achievements in the agricultural field, adding that Kuwait has planted hundreds of thousands of trees all over the country within its afforestation plan.

Science club

KUWAIT, Nov 14, (KUNA): Kuwait Science Club will organise six training sessions on computers for youth at the headquarters of Electronics and Computers Amateurs Association in Hawaii.

The five-week sessions are due to start early next month and will include lectures on aviation, space, computer virus and mobile telephones.

Graduates not efficient in English, says Sabri

Marked lack of interest in languages

THE acting director of the Languages Centre at the Kuwait University, Dr Saladeen Sabri, has attributed students' incompetence in the English language to inattention during school.

He said that having a good knowledge of a foreign language was now one of the essential qualifications required of applicants seeking employment.

He told a local daily that the periodical testing of the student's linguistic abilities was an important procedure to gauge the student's competence. He stressed that any academic body would not treat students' failure in foreign languages as a light matter, and strict measures would be taken even if the result was delayed graduation of the student.

He pointed out that students' incompetence in English was basically the result of a lack of interest on the student's part to follow up with interest their pre-university language courses, which were designed to systematically initiate students into the world of the second language and consequently steadily qualify them for university courses.

Delays

He added that some students would delay their enrolment in the Language Centre for two or three terms before graduation, although the language course was supposed to help students study their primary field of academic studies.

He said that other reasons for graduates' incompetence in English was the inadequacy of hours allocated for the language courses at the faculties of science and engineering, compared to the hours set aside for this purpose at the Faculties of Medicine and Paramedics, where students spent 24 hours weekly on their English course, compared to only 6 to 8 hours spent by students in other faculties on English.

To overcome weakness in the English language course, Dr Sabri added, a student must initially realise that mastering a foreign language was a basic requirement for candidates seeking post-graduation employment, and that the language was closely related to main academic specialisation.

Special testing

He added that the centre prepared language courses to meet the requirements of different faculties for English, French or any other language, which would be taught simultaneously with the main field of specialisation.

He said that the centre offered special testing of competence for fresh students twice a year. This was intended to determine what courses they should join. Based on the results students would be able to join refresher courses especially prepared for this purpose at every faculty.

He also said that students must also realise the need to read books or other publications in English in addition to the prescribed books, whether pertaining to his field of specialisation or not. He said that the centre still endeavoured to increase English teaching hours for students at the faculties of science and engineering to improve their level.

He stressed that the centre had always been involved in improving and diversifying the prescribed English courses to meet the various requirements of the different faculties. Special committees were acting as a link between the centre and the university faculties through which the centre could learn of all new requirements and needed development in the existing English courses.

Changes

Sabri added that changes made this year in the prescribed English courses textbooks

included the faculties of law, science, commerce, and political sciences. Students were regularly tested to monitor their progress.

Teachers of English among the Kuwaitis working at the centre were only 22 per cent, which was a very low percentage compared to the total number of staff at the centre. The reason was primarily the decline in Kuwaiti graduates taking up teaching English as a second language, although the centre offered many incentives and encouraged them to do so, which included scholarships abroad for post-graduate studies, Sabri said.

In a related development the assistant dean of student affairs at the college of engineering, Dr Omar Al Saleh, criticised the current graduation evaluations of the 1986 batch of graduates. He said the system was unfair to students.

He said that students at the engineering college were required to register for a minimum of 15 credit hours. If they had health problems they were allowed to register for 12 credit hours. The university charter required students to complete all academic courses within a nine semester period.

Strict

Dr Saleh said the engineering college was strict in implementing the rules, but this was for the benefit of students.

He said the administration took extra precautions towards application for postponement of final examinations. He said that other university colleges did not implement the rules and that the college was forced to have courses in English.

He said that unified examinations had their advantages and disadvantages, but they were designed specially to benefit students. They covered all levels and were on a general basis. He expressed readiness to open the petroleum engineering college.

Kuwait will accept fair settlement for Palestinians

KUWAIT, Nov 14, (KUNA): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today said Kuwait would accept whatever Palestinians find agreeable in the search for a fair settlement of their problem.

Reiterating Kuwait's attitude, Sheikh Sabah said Palestinians know their rights and are "better aware of their interests."

The senior Kuwaiti official was talking to Kuna after meeting here with PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmoud Abbas, better known as Abu Mazen.

Sheikh Sabah said he listened to a report from Abu Mazen on the latest political developments regarding a planned Israeli-Palestinian dialogue which is hoped to set the stage for peace negotiations to settle the Palestinian question at a later stage.

Abu Mazen briefed the Kuwaiti official on the PLO's position on Israel's proposal of elections in the occupied territories, Egypt's 10-point plan for Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and the US Secretary of State James Baker's amended five-point proposal on the same dialogue.

Abu Mazen told Kuna it was useful "to put Sheikh Sabah in the picture" of those developments and said concrete results were expected to appear following the visit to the US by Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir who arrives there today.

He added that he and Sheikh Sabah reviewed Palestinian-Kuwaiti ties and that he, on behalf of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, expressed gratitude for Kuwait's support for the Palestinian people, particularly the uprising.

Abu Mazen, meanwhile, criticised poor Arab support for the uprising, saying Arab countries have failed to honour the commitments they made during the emergency Arab summit in Algiers last May.

The situation inside the occupied territories would have been quite different "qualitatively and quantitatively" had Arabs respected their support pledges, he said.



Computer course at PAAET

A new training course on the treatment of Arabic texts was opened in the Computer Centre at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. The course opening was attended by the director of the training, planning and co-ordination department, Mansour Al Meshal. Twenty candidates from different government authorities are taking part in the course. The scientific co-ordinator of the course explained that the course will last until Dec 2, 1989.

Action against unlicensed vendors

Municipal teams keen to preserve consumer safety

By Jamal Ameen

THE Food and Shops Licences Department at Kuwait Municipality ensures the suitability of foods and other commercial commodities.

The director, Youssef Al Mulla, said the municipality also takes action against pedlars, ice cream salesmen, and selling inside homes.

He said that imported foodstuff was 100 per cent valid for consumption and added that the department's services included reinforcement of the inspection and censorship team in order to upgrade the level of services provided to residents.

Mulla said the Municipal Affairs Committee and the Council of Ministers will decide on the renewal of licences for shops in model areas and private residential areas. He added that the decision will be published soon.

Mohammed Al Sane, an inspector at Kuwait

Municipality, said that the municipal inspection team was keen to preserve the security and safety of consumers through checks applied to foods sold at restaurants, co-operatives, factories and hotels. He said that inspectors also play an important role in guiding and giving advice to shops.

He added that the department received residents' complaints from all areas.

The commonest complaints received by the department, were about cleanliness of restaurants and foodstuff.

Another municipality inspector, Basem Saleh, said that municipality centres in various areas carried out constant inspection and censorship on all shops. He added that citations were given according to standards and rules.

He pointed out that restaurants got the most complaints, adding that some restaurants did not comply with cleanliness and health rules.

New market, abattoir in Farwaniya

FARWANIYA Governor,

Sheikh Ahmad Al Hmoud, said that a piece of land had been allocated for setting up a vegetable and fruits market and a central slaughterhouse for the inhabitants of the governorate.

He told a local newspaper that the foundation stone of the market would be laid early next year to coincide with the governorate's celebrations marking the opening of its new headquarters building in Ardiya.

He said that the new market with its potential capacity would be able to accommodate the needs of the governorate's inhabitants who would be able to collect fresh food supplies, as part of the governorate's plan to provide all necessary services to

the people.

Sheikh Ahmad attached great importance to the current construction work for the Ardiya sanitary sewage plant which would upon completion put an end to the stench currently afflicting the governorate's residents.

He added that this project received his personal attention and follow-up in line with the state policy to accord service projects top priority and upgrade related performance to contribute to the national development process.

He spoke of the preparations currently in progress to set up a number of bridges on the 5th Ring Road, preliminary to the proposed cancellation of the traffic light control system, in the

pattern used with expressways for the purpose of further easing the traffic flow in the country.

He added that efforts continued to be exerted to identify the geographic and administrative boundaries of the governorate through welcome and other signs.

He said a landscaping project was currently being implemented along the airport road between Farwaniya and the capital governorate.

He called on the local mayors to find out the requirements of their individual neighbourhoods, expressing his high optimism that the governorate council would be able to solve existing problems and provide required services.

REQUIRED

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A STUDY prepared in English on the care, development and diseases of new born babies in the Sabah Health Area has called on all concerned parties to fully cooperate and shoulder their responsibilities at various levels to eliminate existing impediments to the development of the health services at the neonatal centre in

the country. The study, prepared by the chairman of the Kuwait Medical Society, Dr Abdullah Al Rasheed, in collaboration with two other doctors, said that the mortality rates among infants over the past decades provided the parameters for measuring the actual factors involved in developing neonatal techniques.

Rates

The study reveals that the mortality rates among newborn

babies in 1968 and in 1988 showed a marked qualitative improvement in the health service level. However these rates still lagged behind rates recorded in similar medical services at other developing countries.

The study attached great significance to exerting extra concerted effort to bring the mortality rates among newborn babies to the minimum, and to bridge the existing gap between the neonatal centres in Kuwait and those in other developing

countries.

The study added that there was a marked inadequacy and lack of experience in the neonatal field, which was not only true of nursing staff but of paediatricians as well.

The study also said that the lack of equipment in the neonatal medical sphere was another problem afflicting this practice, and that some of the equipment used were the same ones used for the past twenty years, such as the blood gas analyser and the incubators.

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SF7 Wins Design Selection Award '89

Pentax SF7



The Pentax SF7 autofocus single-reflex camera has once again been recognized for its excellence, this time with the prestigious Design Selection '89 award of West Germany.

Inaugurated in 1962, the Design Selection award is presented each year by the Stuttgart Design Centre in recognition of outstanding designs found in electronic, optical and audio equipment, automobiles, toys and interior furnishings.

The announcement of selections was accompanied by an exhibition of the winning products held in Stuttgart from April. The popular six-month exhibition regularly draws more than 20,000 visitors.

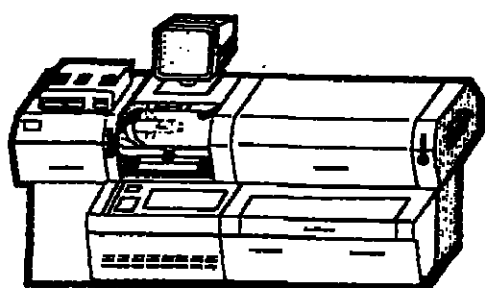
This is not the first time that the SF7 has been singled out for its excellence; the camera was designated a "Good Design" product by Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry last year, and also Consumer Magazine names SF7 Best Autofocus Camera.



Travelogue competition

Barclays Visa Travellers Cheques has organised recently the draw of the winner in the Travelogue competition. The draw took place under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture in Bahrain.

The first prize of two return tickets to London offered by Gulf Air was won by Moosa Abdullah Miran Al Belouchi from the Sultanate of Oman. Seen in the picture is Baluchi receiving his prize from Andre P. Campbell of Barclays Interpayment, Regional Director, ME & Indian Sub-Continent.



For further details
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MEW to replace current billing system

Phased annual payments

By Hussein Salamah

THE assistant undersecretary for consumer's affairs at the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Ali Al Finini, said that the ministry has completed a study on the development of the public electricity charges collection system to replace the current billing system.

He said that the new system would enable consumers to pay their electricity charges by means of a cheque, the amount being determined by the consumer's monthly salary, provided that the full amount was paid within one year.

He added that the consumer would thus be able to follow his own most convenient

paying system, and would not have to pay fixed amounts at fixed deadlines.

Monitoring

He also said that the ministry personnel would be able to monitor the new payment system by a computer on a quarterly basis, and that those failing to make any payment during the first three months would be warned, and a red warning sticker would be affixed to their doors, if failing to make any payment in the first six months, preliminary to disconnecting their power supply.

He said that the new system would save much effort for the ministry and consumer and solve many problems, which the existing system seemed to fail to do.

Charges

He stressed that the ministry and senior ministry officials continued to take precautions to ensure that no power failures would hit the country again, by minimising such chances and avoiding errors that led to such inconveniences.

Finini said that the development of the new system came in response to directives by the minister and senior ministry officials to facilitate routine procedures for consumers which was in line with the directives of His Highness the Crown Prince to alleviate routine pressure which inconvenienced citizens by further developing the public services in the country.

before.

The ministry still owed consumers KD550,000 worth of power charges from last year's balance. The cost paid by the ministry for the production of each kilowatt was 15 fils but the consumer was charged 2 fils only. The return of charges for consumption reached KD36 million compared to power production costs which was KD210 million annually, Finini said.

He added that the ministry paid KD2150 for each thousand gallons of water. The water was sold to consumers at KD0.800 only. He said that the Iraqi water supply project would solve many problems.

Unified GCC labour contracts recommended

Labour ministers meet in Riyadh

RIYADH, Nov 14, (QNA): The GCC social Affairs and Labour ministers decided today to issue a unified labour contract that the six member states will use as a guide in contracts with their expatriate manpower.

During a one day conference held in Riyadh, the ministers also approved a unified guide for manpower recruitment procedures. The Director-General of the Human and Environment Resources at the GCC General Secretariat, Dr Abdul Aziz Al Jalal, said in a statement after the meeting that the ministers had also adopted a project aimed at measuring and estimating the standard of skills of required employees. The project deals in ways to enable businessmen to confirm the qualifications and experience of the employees and

information supplied by them.

He added that the GCC General Secretariat will develop a system for licences and another for measuring the level of professional skills.

Dr Jalal said that the ministers have agreed to co-ordinate their positions at international meetings. The ministers of the six GCC member states have agreed to prepare a comprehensive strategy for the social welfare programmes and social work in general in their countries.

They also agreed to modernise statistics on national and expatriate manpower.

Concerning social work strategy, Dr Jalal said that it included gathering information about social establishments, their rules and legislations in the states, and then evaluate the

present situations of such establishments.

The meeting of the ministers was opened early yesterday at the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh and the Ministers of Social Affairs and Labour in the six member states and GCC Secretary-General, Abdullah Bishara, attended. The meeting was chaired by the Bahraini Labour and Social Affairs Minister, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Bin Mohammad Al Khalifa.

In his opening speech, Sheikh Khalifa, the current chairman of the ministers council, stressed the importance of the meeting, specially as it came after the GCC summit last year issued the Manama Declaration on the need to strengthen social activities and social relations among the member states.

Visit visa period still one month, says official

By Lina Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

AN official at Kuwait's Immigration Department has denied that the actual visit period of a visit visa had been extended from one month to three months.

The director-general of the General Immigration Department, Colonel Ahmed Al Wohaib, told the Arab Times in a telephone interview that the validity of a visit visa was still only one month.

He said that the salary ceiling for granting a visit visa was at the discretion of the Immigration Department officials. He said the Immigration Department reserved the right to accept or reject any visit visa application.



Turning turtle on the Airport Road

This car turned turtle at the U-turn of the Airport Road after crashing into two other cars yesterday morning. This particular U-turn has been reported to be one of the most dangerous junctions because of the speed at which cars travel in both directions. Calls have repeatedly been made for the closure of this traffic junction. The driver was rushed to hospital. Photo by Mohammad Bedaq

Iraqi cancer cure claim unreliable, says doctor

KUWAIT, Nov 14, (Kuna): The Kuwait Centre for Cancer Control has denied as "unreliable" reports in the local press that a breakthrough in curing cancer has been discovered by an Iraqi doctor.

Head of the Chemotherapy Department at the centre told Kuna today that publication of results of scientific researches in newspapers could not be counted on unless it was already published in specialised technical magazines.

"We cannot comment on the paper's report from the scientific point of view for lack of required scientific data on the medicine which could not be prescribed for usage before making sure of its efficacy and its side effects through proper scientific means," said Dr Mohamed Mutawe.

Dr Mutawe, meanwhile, affirmed that the Ministry of Public Health was keeping pace with all scientific developments in the field of cancer diseases, saying the centre maintains contacts with specialised institutes in France, Britain and the United States for exchange of information in this field.

He said Kuwait is considered a leading country in head and neck surgeries as well as radiotherapy.

IASA general assembly to be held here

ON Tuesday, Nov 21 the International Air Shipping Association (IASA) will hold their 37th bi-annual General Assembly meeting in Kuwait. More than seventy delegates representing international air freight companies are expected to attend. Only one member per country is permitted to be a member of the IASA, except USA.

According to Board Member, Nazih Khattar, the meeting is expected to cover several topics of mutual concern such as the ratification of the EEC developments in 1992, ie: abolishing customs formalities between European countries. Another topic will concern the overall "globalisation" concept of the association through membership development in the Middle East, South America, Eastern Europe and Africa.

Expansion

"The motivating force here is that such an expansion will enlarge and strengthen the network of the member companies in the face of increased competition from multi-national freight forwarders," comments Khattar, Director of the local air freight company, Al Naqeb and Khattar.

According to Khattar, IASA was established in 1971, "primarily to set up a world-wide network via pooling resources and working closely together."

There are currently thirty-four members in thirty-one countries. The Board Meeting and General Assembly will take place from November 18-23 at the Regency Palace Hotel, Kuwait.

Joint venture offer Yugoslav sanitary ware company seeking partner

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff



Slavica Sretenovic asked to sit on the board of directors and take part in decision-making.

IN AN effort to penetrate the competitive Kuwaiti market a Yugoslav sanitary ware manufacturer Keramika is seeking a Kuwaiti joint venture partner ready to invest a maximum of \$1 million in factory equipment.

According to the Yugoslav proposal, submitted to several Kuwaiti businessmen and bankers during the currently held Yugoslav trade exhibition, the Kuwaiti partner would also undertake the commitment to market 45 per cent of the output from the factory located in the Serbian town of Mladenovac.

In return, Keramika has offered a lower price per unit for exports to Kuwait and would make arrangements for customs tariffs to be waived on imported equipment. A representative of the Kuwaiti partner would be

foreign partners and withdrew restrictions on transfer of capital.

Slavica Sretenovic, Keramika's special projects manager, currently visiting Kuwait acknowledged that the factory was unable to find in Yugoslavia the funds needed for the expansion of production facilities.

The factory which now works to capacity, producing 700,000 units per year, exported \$2 million worth of goods to Western Europe, Egypt, Iran and the Soviet Union. The success of its exports has prompted the management to seek funds to finance its expansion plans.

"We need special ovens to boost our output. The Kuwaiti partner can either bring in the capital or the equipment," she said. The company signed last month a similar joint venture contract for the extension of its clay pit with an Italian firm.

Austrian trade delegation for Kuwait

ATRADE delegation from Austria comprising 11 companies exporting consumer goods (foodstuffs, crystal and gift items) will visit Kuwait Saturday, November 18, through Sunday, November 19, 1989.

The mission is headed by Franz Schimmler, director of the Middle East Desk of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber in Vienna.

The representatives of the Austrian companies will be available for individual business discussions at the Terrace Room of the Kuwait International Hotel on Saturday and Sunday.

Shop-owners bemoan Ghazalli bridge

By Hassan Al Shemari

THE Ghazalli bridge, which was recently built in the middle of the industrial area in Shuwaikh, separated several areas and brought about a smoother traffic flow.

Several positive benefits followed completion of the bridge, including reducing of traffic jams on the Maghreb express road and other neighbouring main roads.

A number of individuals who are currently working in the area, however, considered this bridge a disadvantage.

Most of these individuals own shops located near the bridge.

A number of shop owners in the same area talked about these disadvantages by saying that the bridge had caused many losses due to a fall in the number of customers at the area. They added that many shop owners had no choice but to sell their

shops at very low prices after paying huge amounts of money to buy them.

Decline

One of the shop owners said that building the bridge had created an unemployment problem for some workers who were fired from their jobs due to low profits.

The bridge has also caused a sharp decline in shop rent, and was estimated at 70 per cent of previous rents.

Majahed Tamam said that since the Ghazalli bridge was built many shop owners faced huge losses. He said that excavation works in the vicinity of the bridge had reduced the number of customers.

During the construction of the bridge, which lasted for two long years, it was rare to see many customers.

He indicated that neighbouring shops were forced to close

due to losses and bad location.

Osama Ali, a car mechanic, said that he was working in this place for some time now, but he didn't notice a drop in the number of customers. After a short time, however many workers had to quit their jobs and other shops were forced to close.

Helal Hasan Joma, the sole owner of a spare parts shop, said that his sales had almost dropped to half after building the Ghazalli bridge. His shop is located along the side of the bridge. The rent has dropped from KD200 to KD60.

Murad, another shop owner said that the bridge has caused them much harm but was a boon to drivers. He is now looking for a job and is waiting until he is able to sell the shop.

Kuwait Sheraton nominated best hotel for second year

IN the second business travel poll conducted by Meed, readers voted the Kuwait Sheraton as their favourite hotel on the basis of both service and value for money. This coveted award was won by the Kuwait Sheraton based on a questionnaire distributed to an approximate of 530 readers from 35 countries including most Arab states and were returned to Meed House where the totals were aggregated to seek the best overall.

Sheraton was deemed to still have the best executive club facilities — a tribute to the group's excellent incentive scheme for business travellers.

The awards were distributed at the Business Travel Award Ceremony held at Dubai at the beginning of November and was



attended by Holger Wessel, General Manager of the Kuwait Sheraton.

OBITUARY



Anthony Filomena Carneiro (Tony)
Born: 2-2-1955
Expired in accident, Bombay, Chembur, 9.11.1989
Inserted by sorrowing brother, family and relatives.
May his soul rest in peace



آپ بھی پڑھئے کیسے فیئر اینڈ لونی نے
قدرتی نازی سے عائشہ کو اس قدر گورا بنایا کہ ہر کوئی دیکھتا رہ گیا

ایک ایسے جلد کے اندر مائل اور مائل ہونے کے عمل کو روک دیتا ہے جو دوسری کوئی کریم نہیں کر سکتی۔ اور دوسرے، اس کی تھری سن، اسکرین، والڈر، جلد کو سانس دینے والی تیرہ سوپ سے محفوظ رکھتا ہے۔ اس کی لٹے اس سے بہتوں میں چرچائی جلد سے بہتر ہے۔ اس کی ہر ایک جگہ سے اجلی اجلی انگوری، گوری، فیئر اینڈ لونی دونوں دیکھا گیا اور جلد میں پوشیدہ کیلئے اپنے قدرتی گوراپن۔ نازی ہیرا، خوبصورتی رکھنا۔ استعمال کا طریقہ: ہاتھ دھوئے اور چہرے، گردن اور ہاتھوں پر مقوی تھری فیئر اینڈ لونی کریم لگائیے۔ ہاتھوں کو اور ہر ایک جگہ لگاتے ہوئے ہر ایک جگہ سے فیئر اینڈ لونی کا اثر شروع ہوتے ہیں آپ کو کمال کی سسٹم سے خوش ہو جائیں گی۔ لیکن پریشان نہ ہوں یہ جلدی دودھ چھائی۔ جلد میں آسانی سے سہاگے فیئر اینڈ لونی پیسے سے زیادہ ملائم اور مہر ہے اس کی

قدرتی نازی سے ایسا گورا بنائے کہ سب سے دیکھتے رہ جائیں

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING is terrible except fear itself — Sir Francis Bacon, English writer (1561-1626).

Visit to Soviet Union

Waiting for coveted prize

AN invitation to make the first papal trip to the Soviet-Union could be the crowning prize for Pope John Paul II when he meets Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Pope's long-expressed wish to visit his flock in the Ukraine, Lithuania and other Soviet regions is one of the main issues expected to be discussed at his Dec 1 audience with the Soviet president.

It will be the first meeting ever between the leaders of the Roman Catholic church and the world's most powerful communist country.

With only an hour or so to talk about relations that have improved considerably after 70 icy years, the Pope should have plenty to say.

He will want to press his case for religious freedom as a whole legalization of the Ukrainian Catholic church and normalization of the church's status in the Baltic republics. The Vatican never has recognized the Soviet annexation of the three Baltic states, and severe restrictions remain on Catholic activity there.

Meanwhile, Western analysts believe Gorbachev also will be looking for something from the Pope, such as a pledge to use his influence to keep the church from becoming a leading vehicle of nationalism and separatism in the Baltic republics and the Ukraine. Nationalist movements there are threatening Gorbachev's perestroika reforms.

A senior Vatican official who closely monitors events in Eastern Europe speculated, "Gorbachev might say to the Pope, 'We are prepared to place no obstacles before the Ukrainian church. You must put pressure on these people to accept this as religious and not political.'"

Gorbachev and the first Polish-born Pope do have some things in common, including their Slavic roots. Both also have a vision of a united Europe, though with a different emphasis. Gorbachev espouses a "common European home" for all, while John Paul sees Christianity as a unifying force throughout the continent, even while it remains divided into opposing blocs.

Church and Soviet officials and John Paul himself have expressed optimism that the meeting with Gorbachev will clear the way for a pastoral visit to the Soviet Union, home to an estimated 8 to 10 million Catholics.

The Pope, speaking to reporters during a flight to Asia in October, that took him over the Soviet Union for the first time, said, "Yes, I think something could develop. On the other hand, I would not like to be a prophet. We shall see."

In Moscow on Nov 1, Soviet Foreign Ministry official Yuri Gromyko said he presumes the Pope will raise the issue of a Soviet visit with Gorbachev. "We'll see what will be the final agreement," he said.

The Pope has previously ruled out a "political visit" limited to Moscow, saying he wants to travel throughout the country to visit Roman Catholics in areas such as Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia, Belorussia and Kazakhstan.

A major roadblock remains the status of the Vatican-aligned Ukrainian church, which was brutally suppressed in 1946 by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin and forcibly merged with the Russian Orthodox church. Vatican sources say that unless the Ukrainian church is legalized, the Pope is unlikely to make a Soviet trip.

"If the Ukrainian church is legalized, that will remove any obstacle to the Pope going there and then I would imagine it would only be a matter of time" before the visit takes place, said John Anderson, head of research on the Soviet Union at Keston College, the British institute that monitors religious freedom around the world.

Ukrainian Catholics, who practice the Eastern Byzantine rite, have emerged from the underground in the past two years to openly demand official recognition by Moscow. By Western estimates, there are at least 4 million Ukrainian Catholics in the Soviet Union.

"Our position is very simple," said Vatican-based Ukrainian Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky. "We want our church to be legalized. We want to retain our Byzantine rite and we want to be under the jurisdiction of the Pope."

Church officials say Soviet authorities have adopted a more tolerant attitude toward Ukrainian Catholics but point out top orthodox officials remain opposed to legalization. Among other things, the orthodox would stand to lose hundreds of churches it took over when the Ukrainian Catholics were persecuted.

The Pope has sought to foster closer relations with the Russian Orthodox church, and a Vatican delegation is scheduled to hold talks with officials of the Moscow patriarchate Nov 19-26.

When he spoke to Ukrainian bishops living in the West on Oct 5, John Paul made clear that the Ukrainian issue would be near the top of his agenda for the Gorbachev meeting.

"The readiness and good will of the authorities must be brought to bear so that... they may, after decades of neglect, solve the problem of the recognition of the rights of the Ukrainian Catholic church," he said.

"The Holy See expresses the hope that... competent authorities will proceed without delay to the recognition of the rights of your church." The Pope also wants greater freedom for the church in Belorussia, where he was recently able to appoint the first bishop in more than 60 years, and the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, areas where nationalist and independence movements are strong. In Lithuania, an estimated 80 per cent of the 3 million people are Roman Catholics.

The Vatican does not recognize the absorption of the republics by the Soviet Union, and a Lithuanian exile mission is accredited to the Holy See. In the past two years, the Vilnius cathedral was returned to the church and the Pope named a cardinal and new bishops in Lithuania, at substantial restrictions on religious activity still exist.

The Vatican also is concerned about the shortage of churches and priests for the Catholics of German and Polish origin who live in Kazakhstan, Tadzhikistan, Kirgizia and Georgia in the Soviet Caucasus mountain and Central Asian regions.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1492 — Christopher Columbus notes in journal use of tobacco among Indians — the first recorded reference to tobacco.

1577 — Sir Francis Drake of England of England leaves on voyage around the world.

1689 — Brazil's King Pedro II abdicates, and Brazil is proclaimed a republic.

1920 — League of Nations assembly holds first meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

1928 — Fascist grand council becomes part of Italian constitution.

1935 — Manuel Quezon becomes first president of Philippine Commonwealth.

1956 — United Nations emergency force arrives in Egypt; Soviet Union makes loan to India.

1971 — Border clashes continue between India and Pakistan.

1976 — Syrian Army takes full control of Beirut, in effect ending 18-month civil war in Lebanon.

1977 — Israel sends formal invitation to Egypt's President Anwar Sadat to visit occupied Jerusalem and address Israeli parliament.

1987 — Northern Yemen announces resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt after eight years of estrangement.

1988 — Dalai Lama says he will settle for less than full independence for Tibet in order to prevent assimilation by China.



PLO leader Yasser Arafat

'Victory is only a stone's throw away'

PLO's new policies are paying off

ONE year after proclaiming a notional Palestinian state, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) says its dream of real independence for the West Bank and Gaza Strip is moving ever closer to reality.

"Victory is only a stone's throw away," has become the constant refrain of PLO leader Yasser Arafat and behind the rhetoric lies a firm conviction that the new policies it adopted in Algiers are paying off in the interests of the Palestinians.

"Nobody can stop the Palestinian state from becoming a reality — the question is how long and at what cost to Israel and the Palestinians," veteran Palestinian leader Khaled Al Hassan told Reuters on Monday.

The cost has been high. In the now 23-month-old uprising in the Israeli occupied territories which provided the background to the declaration of a Palestinian state already 42 Jews and more than 700 Palestinians have been killed.

The revolt has hit the economies of both peoples and tarnished Israel's image abroad.

"Despite the setbacks, and although the results are not yet tangible, the peace initiative is going well and that's all the product of the decisions we took a year ago," said PLO executive committee member Abdullah Hourani.

In the early hours of Nov 15 last year, in a mood of ecstasy and jubilation, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile announced the symbolic creation of an independent Palestinian state to live in peace alongside Israel.

The parliament, known as the Palestine National Council (PNC), coupled the proclamation with acceptance of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 as bases for Middle East peace.

The resolutions, which say all Middle East states have the right to live in peace within recognised borders, immediately paid dividends, bringing widespread international recognition, both for the state and for the PLO as an essential element in any Middle East settlement.

The PLO says 93 countries have recognised either the state or the independence declaration. Most Western nations have rewarded the PLO by upgrading their relations.

"The PLO has led the way towards compromise... we do not believe that credible Palestinians can be found without the PLO," British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave told a news conference in Cairo last week.

Israel's staunchest ally, the United States, opened a dialogue with the organisation in December last year when Arafat made further commitments in Geneva.

In the year since, Arafat has made his first official visits to France, Spain and Japan and has had two meetings with the European Economic Community's troika of foreign ministers.

Contacts with Israeli leftists have accelerated and more and more Israeli politicians have said in public that only the PLO can call off the uprising in the occupied territories.

The PLO says it sees only two obstacles to a settlement — Israeli intransigence and US reluctance to put its full clout behind the kind of settlement it theoretically favours.

Arafat, asked on Saturday if an Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo was possible before the end of the year, said: "It depends on Mr No — (Israeli

Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir.

"It is only Israel that is opposing the peace initiative... so in my opinion, sooner or later, the international community will co-ordinate to bring about peace," he added.

In the year since the PNC meeting in Algiers, Arafat has had to deal with a series of rear-guard actions by radical PLO groups and hardliners within his own Fatah movement.

In the early stages of the PLO-American dialogue, the Marxist Popular and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP and DFLP) put the talks into jeopardy by sending guerrillas on missions against targets in northern Israel.

Then, in August, a Fatah congress put Arafat on the spot by saying the movement should "escalate armed struggle".

But Arafat has survived these crises and one of his advisers was able last week to quote the PFLP as saying direct preliminary talks with Israel would be legitimate as long as the PLO chose the members of the Palestinian delegation.

"That's an enormous advance for the PFLP and a sign of how Arafat has managed to pull the movement behind him," said a Western diplomat engaged in the latest diplomatic steps.

Despite the prevailing optimism among PLO leaders, they have not ruled out a decline in interest in a Middle East settlement and are reluctant to set a date for their dream coming true.

Khaled Al Hassan, asked if a Palestinian state was a matter of years or decades away, told Reuters: "Our duty is keep campaigning for our state. When is beyond our control."

Namibia's whites uneasy about black rule

NAMIBIA'S minority whites are worried about living under a black government newly independent from South Africa. Some are reaching for guns, others hope for reconciliation.

People in the Dutch and German-descended community are openly fearful of persecution if a government of anti-South African Swapo black nationalists is formed after independence elections.

But many of the 80,000-strong wealthy minority are calling loudly for reconciliation following a bloody 23-year bush war between the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) and white-led South African forces.

"The vast majority of Namibian whites want to stay unless they really go haywire," said mining executive Axel von Gerlach.

"There's a feeling among us of 'let's get it over with, we messed each other around for so many years'," said gemstone dealer Willy Preiss, at the counter of his shop on Windhoek's main thoroughfare, Kaiser Street.

"It is high time we forgot the past, where we spoke with guns," said Jorg Heinrichsen, mayor of the tourist town of Swakopmund on the Atlantic coast.

"Bygones are bygones, so if Swapo wins that will be fine so long as they overcome the atrocities," he said.

Much white anxiety stems from fear of the unknown. While many know black leaders of Swapo's rival parties, some of which have participated in Pretoria-backed administrations, few are familiar with Swapo's long-exiled leaders.

The leftist organisation's top men returned from more than two decades' enforced absence only three

months ago under a UN independence plan.

And the advent of a Swapo government could be traumatic for conservative whites, especially for the 4,000 farmers in the extensive rural areas. Some are arming themselves in anticipation of violence.

"We do not trust them. After what has happened maybe they will kill us," said cattle farmer Gert Alberts.

"If Swapo attacks, we will fight," another farmer, Maans Fourie, told South Africa's weekly Mail newspaper.

A sign saying "Welkom by wit wolwe land (Welcome to the land of the white wolves)" appeared several weeks ago at the entrance to the conservative northern town of Otjojo. It was a reference to a shadowy group of South African white extremists.

For most of South Africa's 74-year rule the administrators it appointed in Windhoek applied apartheid racial segregation and a contract labour system that forced blacks to travel vast distances to work for whites under harsh conditions.

Apartheid laws have been abolished but informal separation persists. Most schools and many hospitals are in effect run on segregationist lines.

A growing controversy in the gradual transition to independence sometime next year is a recruiting drive by the white-led police force, seen by many blacks as an instrument of colonialist repression.

The 4,800-strong force charged with keeping order among the 1.3 million population says it is understaffed and needs 2,000 more men in uniform by independence.

The police say they are willing to hire former white

members of a widely-feared paramilitary police unit called Koevoet (crowbar), accused by human rights groups of atrocities against Swapo sympathisers during the war.

Koevoet was disbanded under the independence plan and UN officials overseeing the process say they will not approve the hiring of its former members.

The police respond by saying anyone including former Swapo guerrillas is welcome to join.

"I think it will be foolish for any future government to tamper with the police," said police spokesman Kierie du Rand.

"The discipline is there, we know the country... and now all of a sudden to start a witch hunt on the police will be extremely foolish," he said.

Swapo says it will forgive ex-Koevoet men provided they show they accept the legitimacy of a Swapo government.

There have been persistent newspaper reports that ex-Koevoet men have established a covert white defence network in lonely rural areas to operate after independence. Police deny any knowledge of the network and charges that some officers have a role in it.

Many whites take comfort from Swapo statements declaring their superior education and job skills will be needed as the new Namibia develops its rich mineral, farm and fishing businesses.

But the racial mistrust that marked South African rule persists — "It is one thing to win an election, it's another thing to run a country," says Von Gerlach. (Windhoek — Reuters)

Art Buchwald

Ban the burning of mom's apple pie

ALTHOUGH the Senate killed a proposed constitutional amendment to outlaw the burning of the American flag, some right-minded people are not giving up. The day after the vote, I was handed a red, white and blue flyer on the street.

"We lost this round," the man told me, "but we hope to win the next one."

"Which is?"

"We want to ban the burning of Mom's Apple Pie."

"On what grounds?"

"Next to the flag, Mom's Apple Pie is the most sacred symbol this nation has, and it must be protected by the Constitution."

"I agree," I said. "But is there a lot of pie-burning going on?"

"More than of flags. Every minute of every day someone in this great land is burning an apple pie."

"I didn't know it was that frequent. Who is burning the pies surely not the Moms?"

"Mostly their daughters," the man replied. "This generation has no idea how to bake an apple pie. Everytime someone from the female work force

puts one in the oven, they let it catch on fire."

"Why a constitutional amendment? Wouldn't it be sufficient to have a law ensuring that anyone who desecrated the pie would get jail and a heavy fine?"

"A law doesn't have the same impact as an amendment. Some wise-guy lawyer will argue that burning your mother's pie should be permitted under the First Amendment which guarantees freedom of speech. The fact is this country could not have won any wars if our soldiers had not fought for their Mom's Apple Pie. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, our boys could smell the pie in the oven back home and, for that reason, they broke the backs of the Germans and the Japanese for all time."

"I can understand how revered Mom's Apple Pie is and how much you don't want it burned. My question is, under your proposed amendment, can someone eat the pie without desecrating it?"

"Of course. All we're trying to do is keep people from treating it with contempt."

"Okay, no one can argue with you on that, but since World War II every frozen food company has

sold something they call 'Mom's Apple Pie.' A lot of them are not very good. Are we allowed to stomp on frozen pies after tasting them?"

The man answered, "We are talking about the Mom's Apple Pie that our doughboys yearned for, made with mother's gnarled hands. We couldn't care less about what you do with a frozen apple pie."

"Fine, but how do you plan to enforce this law?"

"The desecration has to be in public and witnessed by at least two TV anchormen."

"Will the Senate go along with you now that they have defeated the flag amendment?"

"We're sure of it. After all, there are a lot more senators who feel closer to their mothers than they do to the flag. We think we can get Bob Dole to lead the fight. He lost the flag battle so he's looking for any victory on the patriotism issue."

"What about President Bush?"

"He's a shoo-in. He's been for Mom's Apple Pie ever since he was tapped for Skull and Bones at Yale."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Letters to the editor

Big disappointment

SIR: Amadeus, as presented by the Filipino Cultural Club last Oct 20, was a big disappointment. The group presented an excellent level of performance was expected for Amadeus. Their most recent performance however, left the audience with the impression that FCC should have tried something less ambitious than Amadeus for their maiden theatre performance.

The portrayal of the main character Salieri, as performed by Tolits Matig-a suffered from a bad case of over-acting and often poor voice projection. The character of Mozart failed to undergo the transformation that was necessary for the role, and most of the time Mandy Salvo's lack of acting prowess enabled him to be eclipsed by the supporting players. The two ventriloquists succeeded in looking unbeatably ridiculous but the soprano Katherina Cavalieri's role, sans dialogue, was perfectly portrayed.

There were some scenes that lost both significance and impact on the audience due to poor executions. The props and change of scenery added more distraction than atmosphere. Dialogue was frequently drawn out, slow, and over-dramatized to the point of excruciating boredom. It was not at all surprising to see one member of the audience fall asleep and knock over an ashtray. This particular sleepy member of the audience deserved more applause than most of the performers for having at least done some worthy entertaining that the rest of the audience could appreciate.

Despite all the bad things that could be said of the play, the performers tried their best to internalize their roles and had remarkable memory for their lines. The FCC should be congratulated for trying their best to produce the play, and one hopes their next production will not be their coup de grace.

A reader,
Name and address supplied.

Part payments

SIR: Through 'The Letters to the Editor' column of your esteemed daily, I want to bring to the kind notice of Ministry of Communications, the difficulties faced by individual subscribers as well as small businessmen in settling their large telephone bills.

It is natural that everyone, employed or a small businessman has to pass through some happy and sad occasions, when they are forced to use much more international calls, then normal times. When they get a large amount of bill, they are unable to pay and postpone payment, until next month, hoping to arrange some funds to clear the bill.

But unfortunately they are sometimes unable to arrange the amount. Another month passes when they get the next bill and are called upon to pay the entire amount due. In case of their inability to pay, their telephone is disconnected.

Wouldn't it be a nice gesture on the part of the Ministry of Communications, to accept payments against a large amount of a bill. This way an individual is helped and the payments are not delayed.

LJS,
Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the edition process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"It must be through Nato that we continue to keep the peace by tried and tested means, while welcoming every step that allows us to do safely at lower levels of forces and weapons. We should honour those in the communist countries who never let repression and dictatorship break their spirit or their unshakable belief in liberty, and who are now seeing their hopes realised."

— Thatcher telling Nato not to let its guard down.

"It's the obvious solution... Accept the reality that people do want to change their consciousness, and make an effort to make safer, healthier drugs. When you take the greed out of it, all the damage starts to fall away, because the criminal intent is a whole different level than the guy who takes drugs."

— Jerry Garcia urging America to legalize drugs.

"He's seven years younger than me and he's won the French Open. If he could improve his serve, he has fantastic potential... Frenchman Guy Forget on Michael Chang after Chang defeated him in a match.

"No way. We're a much better team than we were a year ago. We're more mature, and we're learning how to play with each other. We cherish every win as we go along, but this one is sweeter than any other, because the Pistons are the best team in the NBA."

— A Miami Heat player after defeating the Detroit Pistons in NBA match.

"Dolores, this flower of the 20th century, lives in the daily activity of thousands of men and women of Spain and all the world that aspire to a society where the lives and the human being are the centre of all social and political initiative."

— a statement from the Spanish Communist Party on the death of Spanish communist leader Dolores Ibarruri.

"A woman of humble background like me can't wear bright clothes. With a black dress, although it may be inexpensive, one can go anywhere and one goes decently."

— Late Dolores Ibarruri on her life's philosophy.

"They're complaining about it but I haven't heard one of them say that they're not going to play. Either don't complain and play or complain and don't play. If you think it's too much money for yourself go and play and give it to charity if you want."

— Ivan Lendl on the possibility of playing in the controversial \$6 million Grand Slam Cup.

"Freedom (is) once more on the offensive. Times of great change are times of great uncertainty, even danger."

— British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the situation in E. Germany.

"It's hard to put up with the fact that the best of everything in Moscow (and in the country as well) is for foreigners: hospitality — it's because of our poverty and the servility before the rich that this is engendered."

— A Muscovite expressing his ire in a letter to a weekly newspaper.

Palestinians mark anniversary of state

Shamir in US for crucial talks

Atmosphere is cool

KUWAIT, Nov 14. (Kuna): The Palestinian people as well as the Arab and peace-loving countries will celebrate Nov 15 the first anniversary of the declaration of an independent Palestinian state.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who was chosen by the Palestinian National Council as the president, declared Palestine an independent state on Nov 15, 1988.

He stated, "In support of the natural, legal, and historical right of the Palestinian people, the sacrifices made by generations after generation in defending their land and its independence, based on the resolutions of Arab summits, emanating from the legal strength of United Nations resolutions since 1947, that give the Palestinian people the right of self-determination, sovereignty and political independence, the national council announces in the name of God and in the name of the Arab Palestinian people the establishment of the State of Palestine on the Palestinian soil whose capital is Jerusalem."

The declaration of independence created a nostalgic atmosphere in the Palestinian gathering in Algiers, as well as Palestinian refugees all over the world. In the homeland of Palestine, mosques, churches, universities and schools broadcast through their loudspeakers Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's speech, as adults and children paraded and demonstrated carrying the Palestinian flag and chanting slogans supporting the newly-born independent Palestinian state.

Meanwhile, Arab countries hurried to recognize the Palestinian state and agreed to change the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) offices into embassies for the State of Palestine. Many Arab capitals awarded the Palestinian president a head of state reception and used their influence and relations to secure international recognition, which currently stands at 93 states, of Palestine. In reality, Palestine does have land of its own because all UN resolutions had affirmed that the land captured by Israel in the June war of 1967 is "occupied land" other than the fact that the establishment of a Zionist entity was made on Arab Palestinian land before that in 1948.

The Palestinians also have the UN Resolution 181 in 1947 partitioning Palestine into Arab and Jewish states to support their legal rights to an independent state.

WASHINGTON, Nov 14. (AP): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir today begins a two-day visit in which tensions over setting up Middle East talks could test the US alliance with Israel. The administration was slow in confirming that President George Bush would see Shamir, and the atmosphere also was cool for a meeting and lunch with Secretary of State James Baker.

Those sessions tomorrow could be critical in the month-long drive by Baker to shape Shamir's proposal for Palestinian elections in a way that is acceptable to the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The PLO has not accepted or rejected Baker's plan. PLO approval through Egyptian surrogates is considered a prerequisite for Israeli-Palestinian talks. And yet, attention remains riveted on Israel, which has bargained openly with Baker to try to fence out the PLO from meetings.

Nobody can ignore PLO

LONDON, Nov 14. (Reuters): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat said Israel would eventually have to talk to the PLO and a Palestinian state was now only "a stone's throw" away.

In a television interview today he said the PLO was a key player in the Middle East and could not be ignored. "We are here. Nobody can annihilate and liquidate six million Palestinians," he told the BBC.

Israel has refused to talk to the PLO, which it regards as a terrorist organisation.

meeting in Washington with Foreign Ministers Moshe Arens of Israel and Esmat Abdel Meguid of Egypt. Afterward, elections would be held among the 1.7 million Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said today that Palestinian leaders of a 23-month revolt in occupied territories were turning to guns rather than stones to mark the first anniversary of a Palestinian declaration of independence.

He vowed that Israel would catch and punish Palestinian gunmen who shot dead a soldier in the Gaza Strip yesterday and warned that Arab residents who helped them would suffer.



An Arab woman voting for Israel's powerful Histadrut labour federation. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sudan denounces bid to rebuild Jewish temple

KHARTOUM, Nov 14. (Agencies): Sudan said today a recent attempt by Jewish militants to rebuild King Solomon's second temple near Muslim shrines in Jerusalem was a "flagrant defiance of Islam."

A Foreign Ministry statement called for international action to halt the attempt. The Israeli government foiled the militants' first move last month. About 100 members of a religious group called Temple Mount Faithful tried to lay a three-ton cornerstone for the rebuilt temple near the Western Wall in East Jerusalem. Police did not allow them to enter the Old City.

The Western Wall is the sole remnant of King Solomon's second temple, destroyed by the Romans in AD 70. Babylonians destroyed the first temple in 587 BC.

The wall, sacred to Jews, is near Al Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock, mosques revered as Islam's third holiest shrines after Makkah and the Prophet Mohammed's (PBUH) tomb at Medina, Saudi Arabia. The Sudanese statement said the attempt to rebuild the temple is "a fresh provocation to the Islamic world... a flagrant defiance of Islam."

Aoun threatens Christian MPs

Hoss seeks support of warring factions

BEIRUT, Nov 14. (Reuters): Lebanon's new Prime Minister Selim Hoss plunged into consultations with former premiers of divided Lebanon today in an effort to seek support to bring warring factions into a government of national unity.

Hoss, appointed prime minister yesterday, met fellow Sunni Muslim Rashid Solh and Amin Al Hafez, both heads of government in the 1970s. Solh headed a cabinet at the beginning of the civil war which has split the country since 1975.

Rocket-propelled grenades exploded overnight on the Green Line dividing mainly Muslim West Beirut from the Christian East, security sources said. No casualties were reported.

Hoss met the politicians in Syrian-held West Beirut to seek support for his administration, opposed by Christian leader General Michel Aoun, who has vowed to drive Syria's 33,000 troops from the country.

Parliamentary sources said Hoss might later meet Druze militia leader Walid Jumblatt and Nabih Berri, head of the Muslim Shiiite Amal militia, before forming a cabinet. The sources said the cabinet could be announced by the end of this week.

Aoun, who regards himself as head of a rival legitimate government, was quoted by newspapers as saying any Christian leader who joined Hoss's cabinet would have to leave the Christian enclave.

"They can stay with Hoss but not here," said Aoun, who since last year has led a military campaign to retake Beirut.

Aoun has said he will not meet Lebanese President Rene Muawad, except to discuss a timetable for Damascus' troops to leave.

Muawad was elected president by Christian and Muslim members of parliament on Nov 5 and appointed Hoss to his post.

The Muslim prime minister had headed a cabinet rivaling that of Aoun but resigned on Muawad's election.

Aoun has declared parliament dissolved and denounced an Arab League-sponsored peace plan, which led to the presidential election, for failing to provide for Syria's estimated troops to leave Lebanon. The pact also dilutes Christian power in favour of the Muslims.

In a sign that Aoun is becoming internationally isolated, 32 Arab and Western diplomats yesterday paid respects to Muawad. Hoss hopes to persuade the Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, the strongest Christian force after Aoun's, to take part in his government and help implement a peace plan approved by parliament.

Jumblatt's Syrian-backed Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) criticised the choice of Hoss, whom it regards as too moderate.

The head of Lebanon's largest Christian militia is trying to reconcile Muawad with Aoun, a senior militia official said today. "If we have a reconciliation between Aoun and Muawad it would make many things easier," Cesar Nasr, head of the Lebanese Forces (LF) foreign department, told Reuters in an interview.

Nasr said unity was paramount while the Christian community faced many dangers. "LF leader Samir Geagea's objective is to conciliate and find a way out of this difficulty..."

Nasr said he did not know of any direct talks but there were "constant indirect contacts" between Geagea and Muawad, he added.

Rival Muslim militiamen battled with machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades in Beirut's southern suburbs today, sending thousands of residents rushing to underground shelters and staircases.

Security sources said dozens of heavily-armed gunmen from the two Shiite groups, the Hezbollah and the Amal, took to the streets in the Syrian-held Sheykh neighbourhood shortly after a brief exchange of fire.

Rebels capture key stronghold

Kabul reopens supply routes

ISLAMABAD, Nov 14. (Agencies): Anti-communist rebels have captured an important stronghold in mountains west of the Afghan capital and repulsed a counter-attack by the Soviet-backed government to retake it, sources reported today.

A rebel news agency said the mujahedeen, killed 37 soldiers who tried to dislodge them late last week. Western diplomats, speaking in Islamabad on condition of anonymity, said the US-backed insurgents are holding a key position at Pajak, 18 miles (30 kilometres) west of the besieged capital.

"It illustrates that the mujahedeen are steadily chipping away at Kabul's security perimeter," said one diplomatic source.

Analysts said the mujahedeen conquest links rebels forces west and north of the city, and robs the Marxist government of an important observation post for directing artillery and rocket fire.

"There are now no significant regime positions on the west side of Kabul beyond the regime base on the western edge of Kabul itself," said the diplomatic source. Media, a news agency of seven mujahedeen groups based in Pakistan, said 37 soldiers were killed and three army vehicles were destroyed in one government counter-strike.

Diplomatic sources said they also had reports of heavy losses to army troops but could not estimate figures. Meantime, they said, government forces have succeeded in reopening two key supply routes feeding Kabul and the eastern city of Jalalabad.

However, mujahedeen have continued small unit attacks on the Salang highway linking the capital with the Soviet border, delaying the movement of hundreds of supply vehicles that were backlogged when rebels sealed the road for two weeks in late October.

The insurgents are fighting to topple the Kabul government and establish an Islamic republic. The ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan seized power in a 1978 military coup, sparking the rebellion. Soviet troops intervened in December 1979 to replace one pro-Moscow government with another, then fought the rebels to a stalemate before a phased withdrawal that was completed last February.

Afghanistan's major cities remain in government hands but under rebel attack. The mujahedeen control nearly all of the rugged countryside. Moscow has continued to arm Kabul through a massive military airlift.

Rockets slam daily into Kabul, killing hundreds of people since May when this year's fighting season began in earnest. However, fighting is expected to die down in coming weeks as winter snow blocks mountain passes and restricts rebel movement.



Young Palestinian girls in school uniforms pass an armed Israeli soldier as they return home after the army forced the closure of West Bank schools. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Rockets don't hurt enemy. They hurt us'

Jordan fears Israeli reprisals

ADASSIYEH, Jordan, Nov 14. (AP): Hassan Humayed was sleeping on his rooftop on a hot night when a Katyusha rocket hissed over his 10 slumbering children, ricocheted off the concrete roof and went through a stone wall without exploding.

"The people who launch the rockets don't hurt the enemy. They hurt us," he fumed, referring to the Palestinian commandos who had fired the missile from a mountain above the town.

It was aimed at Israel, 11-2 miles (2.5 kilometres) west of Humayed's house on the northern end of the border. A second missile exploded harmlessly in an Israeli field.

A few days after the Sept 7 incident, Humayed said, Israeli troops burned 60 of his family's orange trees. He said they fired a flare onto the Jordanian side of the Yarmouk river, apparently to burn away brush that commandos could use for cover.

The missiles and several recent attacks on Israel have interrupted years of relative calm along Jordan's 300-mile (480-kilometre) confrontation line, prompting veiled Israeli threats of retaliation if they continue.

The attacks pose a security problem for Israel. For Jordan, however, it is an issue of survival against a powerful foe who in 1967 captured the West Bank of the Jordan river, which contained much of the Hashemite kingdom's economy. Israel can strike at Jordan's heartland almost at will.

A senior military official, who cannot be named under army regulations, told the Associated Press after a rare army-sponsored visit to the sensitive border that the Jordanians are trying to stop the attacks.

Twelve local members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine were arrested after the rocket attack. Military officials said the commandos who fired the Katyushas crossed from Syria, which favours a militant stand against Israel and sponsors hard-line commando factions.

"We don't believe this sort of action will solve the Palestinian problem," the senior military official said. "If the Israelis retaliate, it might hurt our citizens."

He suggested Syrian-backed radical Palestinians were trying to undermine Arafat's peace initiative. "We take every word said by the Israeli leaders seriously... because we've learned they mean it," the senior officer said.

Israeli retaliation for commando raids in the 1960s cost Jordan heavily. In March 1968, Israeli forces attacked the village of Karameh, demolishing nearly every building before they were driven back across the Jordan with heavy losses.

CIA sought spy base near Soviet border with Iran, recruited seven agents

ATHENS, Nov 14. (UPI): The United States instructed one of its agents in Iran to buy up land near the Soviet border for use as an espionage base against the Soviet Union, a delayed report reaching Athens today said.

The Tehran newspaper Kayhan, copies of which reached Athens, quoted an Iranian allegedly recruited by the US Central Intelligence Agency as saying he was asked to buy up land close to the Soviet border in the northeastern Khorassan province.

Mahmud Zarif, the alleged agent, was quoted as saying the United States was concerned that Iran would be invaded by Soviet forces from the northeast and would become "like Afghanistan."

Labour tightens grip on unions

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 14. (Reuters): Israeli workers have denied Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir a vote of confidence before a difficult trip to the United States and given an unexpected boost instead to his Labour Party rivals.

Labour easily defeated a challenge by Shamir's rightist Likud Party to its control over the powerful Histadrut Trade Union Federation. It was an election victory that could make it a more assertive partner in Israel's national unity government.

Israel television's computer forecast gave Labour 55 per cent of the vote to Likud's 28 per cent, with the leftist opposition Mapai Party taking 10 per cent and small left-wing and Arab parties taking the remaining seven per cent.

Victorious Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar said initial results from yesterday's poll suggested Labour's margin of victory might be even larger.

Shamir, who left for Washington early today, had made the poll a test of public support for his refusal to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organisation and his foot-dragging on US efforts to convene Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

But there was little sign that the issue swayed many voters. The turnout was 53 per cent out of 1.6 million members.

"It is true the public expected a bigger Likud achievement, it was accustomed to this, but the achievement is significant," Shamir, 74, told an airport news conference.

Subdued Likud politicians pointed out that their party increased its share of the vote by five percentage points from the last Histadrut election in 1985. But they admitted they failed in their goal of breaking Labour's absolute majority.

Labour leader and Vice-Premier Shimon Peres said the results showed his party was recovering after a disastrous year in which it trailed Likud in general elections and lost its long-standing hold on local government in municipal polls.

"I regret that Shamir turned this into a political issue, but he must now bear the burden of the political results that he invited," Peres said.

In the 1985 poll, Labour and Mapam running together jointly won 66 per cent of the vote.

The labour federation controls numerous industries, a major bank, health services and the country's biggest pension funds. They account for 30 per cent of Israel's industrial output and a quarter of its gross domestic product.

Most of the Histadrut institutions are wrestling with heavy deficits due to poor management, overmanning and crippling interest payments incurred during the hyperinflation of the early 1980s.

Likud advocated privatising Histadrut enterprises and turning its medical insurance fund, which provides health care for 80 per cent of Israelis, into a government-managed national health service coupled with more private medicine.

Labour leaders divulged little of their plans to deal with their empire's huge debts but party officials said Histadrut would pursue the trend towards decentralisation and introduce more modern management techniques.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Under surveillance: An Islamic leader said on Tuesday that Tunisia's security forces had stepped up surveillance on him in the week since the government ruled out legalising a party based on religion.

Humadi Jebeli, one of the leading handful of Islamic activists in Tunisia, said up to five security agents at a time had been following him since last Wednesday. "Everyone who comes to my house has to show his papers to the men at the door and whenever I go out there's a car behind with three men, one with a walkie-talkie," he told Reuters.

"I protest against this violation of the most basic human right. It's a form of intimidation and it's very irritating, this interference in my private life."

Other sources in the Nahdha (renaissance) movement, the Islamic group refused recognition as a political party last June, said the security forces were also closely watching at least four other Islamic leaders in Tunis. (Reuters)

UN envoy shuttles: UN envoy Jan Eliasson, hoping to revive stalled Gulf peace talks with shuttle diplomacy, left for Iran on Tuesday after meeting Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, Iraq's official UN news agency said.

Diplomats said Eliasson would discuss UN Security Council resolution 598, the basis of a ceasefire declared in August last year, with Iranian leaders and then return for his fourth visit to Baghdad since his shuttle began last week.

The ceasefire and deployment of UN observers along the 1,200-km (750-mile) border are the only elements of the resolution in force.

More than 100,000 prisoners of war are still held 15 months after the eight-year conflict ended. (Reuters)

US envoy to Beirut: The United States is considering sending its ambassador to Lebanon back on a flying visit to present his credentials to the country's new president, administration officials said today.

US Ambassador John McCarthy and his staff left Beirut in early September after US demonstrations outside his embassy raised fears for their security. The officials said they were examining whether it was possible for McCarthy to return in a move intended to bolster the authority of Rene Muawad, elected President of Lebanon by its Parliament last week.

But they declined to speak about a possible date for security reasons. The United States has enthusiastically backed the agreement reached after protracted negotiations in Tbilisi, Saudi Arabia, to redraw the political map of Lebanon in an effort to end 14 years of civil war there. (Reuters)

Iran by-elections: Parliamentary by-elections will be held in Iran next month in six provinces, Tehran Radio said today.

The broadcast said that elections will be held December 15 in the towns of Tehran, Karaj, Kashan, Kerman, Kordkuy, Torkaman, Khashan and Dor-Chegini to elect representatives for six constituencies to the 270-seat Parliament.

The representatives will hold three-year terms, the radio said. The Majlis or Parliament, is currently dominated by radicals who oppose the liberal policies of President Hashemi Rafsanjani, who was elected in June.

The radicals failed to attract a large crowd to mark the 10th anniversary of the storming of the US embassy earlier this month, and the elections are being seen as a barometer of their political clout. (AP)

Spanish envoy in Sudan sacked

MADRID, Nov 14. (Reuters): The Foreign Ministry said today it had dismissed Spain's envoy to Sudan for "conduct unbecoming in a Spanish ambassador."

In a statement, the ministry said Pedro Garcia-Trelles was sacked at the beginning of November for "abuse of power, offensive behaviour towards embassy staff and manifest disobedience of orders received from the ministry."

The ministry did not elaborate. Spanish newspapers said a top ministry official had been sent to Khartoum to take charge of the embassy. Garcia-Trelles, a personal friend of Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, was sent to Sudan a year ago after postings in Jordan, Chile, Argentina, the Netherlands and the ministry in Madrid.

EVENTS

Kemal Gekic: a new Chopin

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

YUGOSLAV pianist Kemal Gekic delivered Monday his programme of Chopin and Liszt with ease and aplomb demonstrating to the packed audience at the Regency Palace Hotel his superb technical control, an ability to switch moods with fluency and draw a complex and rich sound from the instrument.

His choice of only two composers, Chopin and Liszt was not coincidental. Not only do these two composers hold a special appeal for audiences at large but they also give Gekic an opportunity to show his considerable skill.

Chopin's Ballad Op. 23 is an impressive piece of music with contrasting moods that Gekic captured with mastery and which probably appeal to his sense of the dramatic.

Sonata Op. 58 was more of a pianist's piece of music which is a true test of the performer's control and as such can hold the audience in suspense. This was Gekic's musical high-wire act which he delivered in a flawless manner. He displayed an exquisite touch, caressing the keyboard to produce a sound warm and tender, or sprightly only to let himself go in the crescendo passages of the Finale. In fact the Finale was the most exciting movement of the Sonata with its powerful and striking theme underpinned by lyrical passages.

Gekic ended the first part of the programme with a well-known and liked Polonaise Op. 53. It begins with a few playful notes and turns into a moving piece of music that charges the listener with emotion and enthusiasm.

The second part of the programme was devoted to Liszt, a cerebral composer whose romantic music is stamped with extraordinary passion and intellectual quality.

Sonetto Dal Petrarca conveyed some paths but it also carried the excitement of artistic creation that Liszt must have shared with Petrarka, a famous 14th century Italian poet, who inspired him. Little of this would have been evident had Gekic himself not been a superb interpreter capable of stamping great pieces of music with his great talent and understand-



Pianist Kemal Gekic.

Liszt's Liebestraum No. 3 is marked with feelings of nostalgia, revolt and bitter-sweet abandon while the Dante Sonata was undoubtedly most taxing but also rewarding both for the pianist and the audience.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.30 The Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.40 Sabah Al Kheir News and Variety
- 10.00 Around the World: Cartoon Serial
- 10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
- 10.30 Fi Muntasaf Al Lail: Local Serial (Part 6)
- 11.30 Sabah Al Kheir News and Variety
- 12.00 Circus: Variety Programme
- 12.30 News Summary
- 12.35 Holy Quran and Closedown

EVENING

- 4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran
- 4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
- 4.45 Alice in Wonderland: cartoon serial (Part 19)
- 5.15 Football Lessons: Sports Programme
- 5.45 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements
- 6.00 Al Islam Hadhara: Religious Serial (Part 9)
- 7.00 Popular Variety: Local Programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Mutairi
- 7.45 Television Network: Local Programme, prepared and presented by Abdul Rahman Al Nahar
- 8.30 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Tareq Min Al Sama: Arabic Serial (Part 10)
- 10.35 Variety
- 11.30 Al Qadheya Kharej Al Malaf: Local Play.
- 1.15 News Summary
- 1.20 The World Today via

Satellite
1.50 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Voltron. A cartoon series for children.
- 6.30 Danger Bay. "Expert Witness." Grant resigns from the aquarium and fights to restore his reputation when a leading expert casts doubt on the accuracy of his research
- 7.00 On the Wings Of the Wind. "On the Seychelles." This island with its wealth of fish, magnificent beaches and bays is a favourite with divers, swimmers and surfers. Moreover, it is the wonder of the native fauna and flora which make the Seychelles so attractive.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 The great circus of the world. Acrobatic shows and a variety of exciting circus games from China to the USA
- 9.30 Wild Life On One. A look at parrots, their ability to learn and imitate sounds, and different types of colours.
- 10.00 Cine Club. Presented by Farouk Abdulaziz. "High Anxiety." Starring: Mel Brooks, Madeline Kahn.
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown



Reception for young naval officers

A dinner reception was hosted Sunday in honour of some of the young officers of the visiting naval ships INS Gomati and INS Shakti at the residence of Dr and Mrs Rakesh Asthana. Picture shows from left to right: Dr Saria Bang, and Nirmala Janssen (both sitting), Prakash Navani, Surgeon Lt Vijay Sharma, Dental Surgeon Lt Commander Arun Mehta, Capt Mathews (Indian Merchant Navy), Dr (ex-capt.) Rakesh Asthana, Lt Sushant, Sub Lt Chaturvedi, Sub. Lt Alok, Sub. Lt Malhi, Anju Asthana the hostess, Meena Navani and Rennie Mathews.

Iqbal Day celebrated

MARKING the 112th birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal, Pakistan People's Club celebrated the day in a befitting manner.

The meeting was presided over by Dr Riaz Ahmed Mahesar, and addressed by Rafiq A. Mirza, Ch. Arif Punnu Khan, Nazeer Dogar, Aslam Javed and Haji Qamar.

All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
One Man Force

Al Sahniya
Hall Booked

Al Hamra
Lawless Land

Drive-In
Arabic film

Al Firdous
Insaaf Ki Manzil

Fahad Open
Charnon Ki Saugand

Al Fahad
Arabic film

Al Jahra
The Second Degree

Granada
Arabic film

Satfikhkhat
Hoodlums

Al Jeeb
Big Business

Al Fahad
Arabic film

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ARTS

Islamic Art

A SIX week — 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00 noon. October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week — eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 - 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.



Shrimp festival at Versailles

For ten days, from Nov 12-22, there will be a Shrimp festival at the Versailles restaurant of the Meridien Hotel.

Enjoy the shrimp season by tasting some of the special dishes prepared by our executive chef Didier Cazes.

This is the time to enjoy shrimps when they are the tastiest and most tender.



Indoor Games Competition

K.M. Shehabuddin, the ambassador of Bangladesh, opened the Indoor Games Competition '89 on the Embassy premises. The competition was organised by the Bangladesh Association on Nov 9.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Athar during museum hours 8.30 am - 12.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Jazz Night

NOV 29: In response to overwhelming demand, once again Phil Thomas and the "High Spirits" will be extending their "Jazzical" repertoire for your enjoyment. From 8pm to 12 midnight. Phone: 5640981.

Hobby centre

New Courses in Jewellery making and design for adults.

For children there is Pottery

starting next month for 6 weeks. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

Navellim Youth Centre

NOV 16: An annual get-together nite with live music from "Stepping Stones and Top Ranks" having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex — 2426334, Mr Marian — 2416945.

Tribute to Hemant Kumar

IN FOND remembrance of Hemant Kumar the Indian Arts Circle, in association with Bengali Cultural Society, is arranging a musical evening at the IAC auditorium on Nov 16, 1989 at 8 pm. On this solemn occasion leading singers of Kuwait will pay tribute to Hemant Kumar by rendering his song.

Free entry passes will be available from the IAC office. For details contact 5621379, 2644863 or IAC 3904817.

Kuwait Goans

DEC 15: Annual children's X'mas tree function will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Friday, December 15, '89 from 9.30 am onwards. Lots of prizes and surprises awaits for one and all. Top Ranks in attendance.

To avoid disappointment call for your early bookings on 2413348.

Carnival Night

The long waited Carnival Night will be held for the first time in Kuwait with popular bands "Top Ranks" and "Perfect Strangers" vibrating up the Carnival Spirit to bring out their best music ever. So all you folks look ahead for more details through this column for the precise date in the month of February, 1990.

Watercolour painting

LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Millins. New 8 week course in drawing and painting for adults. For details Tel: 5618847.

Yuletide Fayre

Do not miss the Yuletide Fayre being organised by St Paul's Church, Ahmadi from 2 pm to 5 pm on the afternoon of Friday, 1st December at the British embassy compound. There will be stalls for Christmas gifts, handicrafts and books as well as for cakes and preserves. There will be entertainment, including Santa Claus, for the children. Refreshments will be available.

Daniella Bingo

NOV 15, 8 pm: Daniella invites all Danes to Bingo games at the Gazelle club. For reservations please call Inge on 3727690 ext 207 or Karen Marie on 3715146 before November 13.

Navellim feast

The feast of Our Lady of Rosary, Navellim will be celebrated on 15.11.89, at the Holy Family Cathedral at 7.15 am.

People's Trust Club

DEC 29: People's Trust Club welcomes you to a day of your life at Ramada Al Salam (Marriott) Hotel, New Ballroom from 10.30 am onwards. Nimble feet, hungry palate, perfect blend of music and style. A get-together with buffet. Featuring Stepping Stones, Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers. There will be novelties and surprises galore. Contact Columbus on 4348218.

Musical Show

DEC 1: Musical Entertainment show at Doha Entertainment City in 'Starlight Theatre' with Live Rock 'n' Roll, Pop and Reggae music from the most popular and dynamic beat groups of Kuwait.

"Top Ranks" and "Next of Kins."

The Highlights: Fancy dress competition, live stage performance of jive, break dance and solo dancing by Joe Misquita, Tony & their dancing group. Including many surprises.

For complete details Twinkle on: 4879455 ext. 298 (4 pm to 9 pm); Hilary, 2649442; John Philp, 2546890 (after 8 pm); Tom and Luiza, 2661370.

For tickets contact: Andrew at Dreamland Tailor's, 1st floor, above Raja Stores, opp. Canara Exchange.

NB: Transportation is available.

Rock 'n' Roll

Nov 22: Spend a night of nostalgia with music from 1955-1965 provided by "High Spirits" at Messilah Beach Hotel. Fulfill your fantasy and dress as your favourite star of the era or just dress up. Also B.B.Q. and prizes. For details please contact 5624111 ext 711, 712 or 705

Get together

DEC 22: Southerners welcome you once again to a family get-together at Le Mirage Hall at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel at 10 am.

British Council

85th birthday tribute to Graham Greene — The British Council is holding an 85th Birthday Tribute to Graham Greene with an exhibit of a set of poster about his life and works during the whole month of November. On Tuesday, 14 Nov., Saturday, 25 Nov and Sunday, 26th Nov., film adaptations of "Brighton Rock" and "The Human Factor" will be shown at the Gallery starting at 5.00 pm. Admission is free but please book seats by calling 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

Visit the Education Information Office on: Monday, 13 Nov or Tuesday, 14 Nov. If you are interested in courses in Business, Management or Finance.

Thursday Night Fever

The Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait will hold another interaction evening for the beneficiaries of its welfare projects which it conducts in coordination with the Welfare officer of the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration. The evening promises rhythmically pulsating dance music for all dance floor aficionados. The project is entitled "Thursday Night Fever" and is scheduled to be held on Thursday, the 30th of November 1989 at 5.30 pm at the Meridien Hotel's Al-Jahra Ballroom.

Meanwhile FLASSIK invites everyone to join their "LOVE DRIVE." Used clothing, blankets, toiletries and canned goods are welcome. Please contact any FLASSIK officers if you have any donations. And for those looking forward to the yule season we invite you to the "CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT" under the talented conductress Gilda Navarro and the Filipino choir. Watch out for more details.

Kuwait Cultural Centre

THE Kuwait Cultural Centre is opening a French Language course to be held on Saturdays and Mondays. For further detail please contact 5624393.

Nostalgia Filipina

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their Philippine Community Day on Friday, Nov 24 at the SAS Tent at 6.00 pm in co-operation with the Philippine Embassy. This big event will also coincide with the selection of Hiyas ng Pilipinas — Kuwait '89, a personality and talent contests. The theme of this year celebration is Nostalgia Filipina.

The association's main objectives are to bring all Filipinos closer and to ease their loneliness and homesickness.

Kapilku President Manny Inserto is optimistic that this

year's celebration will strengthen ties among Filipinos in Kuwait. The proceeds will be utilised to less fortunate members of the association.

All the guests will be treated to an extravaganza of music in love song, modern to rock 'n' roll plus cultural shows to be performed by well known Filipino singers and artists respectively.

A coloured TV and other valuable prizes will be at stake to all the guests in raffle contest during the celebration.

Versatile Sarah Macarimbang, VP for Social & Cultural Affairs is the chairperson of this big and colourful project while Flamboyant Jun Mer-

cado is the vice chairman. Energetic Theima A. Samiel, finance officer of the Philippine Embassy is the production consultant and debonair Manny Tupas is the musical director.

Tickets are available at General Admission, Premium and deluxe. For details, please contact the chairperson on telephone number 4643449 or the vice chairman on telephone number 4699418.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and it's going to be a nite to celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until

sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel: 5331940, 2413706 (res).

Fancy Dress Competition

DEC 8: Joint annual family get-together has been shifted to Kuwait Regency Palace for the convenience of all members on 8th Dec from 10.00 am onwards. Live music from the Top Ranks, fancy dress competition, free gifts from Santa and games for children.

Members are requested to collect their passes from the managing committee or call Joe 3981790/Satu 3921712.



Nehru birth centenary celebration

THE concluding ceremony of the Nehru Centenary celebrations is being organised by the Indian Arts Circle on Friday, Nov 17, 1989 at 6.30 pm. Results of the qualifying rounds of various children's competitions will be announced on this occasion. A symposium on Nehru, classical dances and a costume parade are the other items for the evening's programme. The Indian ambassador will be the chief guest and all are cordially invited.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Speculative grab for Lebanese pound in Gulf

BAHRAIN, Nov. 14, (AP): A speculative grab for the Lebanese pound was precipitated in the Gulf region with the election of President Rene Mouawad after a 14-month gap without a head of state in the war-ravaged country, leading foreign exchange dealers said yesterday.

The sources said that the value of the Lebanese pound was on the rise, pushing its price from a record low of about KD 550 (\$1,870) per million pounds by about 40 per cent to about KD 750 (\$2,550).

In dollar terms the rise in value in Kuwait has been from 335 pounds per dollar to less than 400. In Beirut the rate is about 415 pounds per dollar, changed from around 330 before hope for a political settlement.

"The value of the Lebanese pound hinges on the political and security situation in Lebanon. Any agreement among various factions tends to push up the currency," Jamal Zayed, director of the foreign operations department at Al Muzaini money changing establishment told the Associated Press.

According to the dealers, they monitored several speculators, not all Lebanese, who had bought millions of pounds and stood to make a healthy profit if the price continued increasing.

At least one man had 100 million Lebanese pounds (\$255,000).

They said that the situation was the same in other neighbouring oil-rich Gulf states where large expatriate communities of Arab and non-Arab national-

als abound.

The demand for the Lebanese pound subsided during Mouawad's consultations for formation of a government, but when he made his selection of Salim Hoss as prime minister, interest heightened.

The sources did not expect any dramatic decisions regarding the Lebanese pound from Beirut in the

short term. To the contrary, they noted that the Lebanese Central Bank was not willing to see the pound rise sharply in value and has been recurrently stepping in to sell pounds when there were abrupt hikes.

Dealer Jassem Al Sarraf said, "I think the present value of the pound is much lower than its normal foreign exchange rate."

Business Briefs

UAB conference

BAHRAIN, Nov. 14 (Reuters): A senior Arab banker said today that Egypt, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) had too many banks and recommended mergers.

"The Arab world as a whole is not overbanked, although some countries like the UAE, Jordan and Egypt are," said Adnan El-Hadi, secretary-general of the Beirut-based Union of Arab Banks (UAB).

"We are calling for mergers inside those countries," of small private banks, he told reporters in Bahrain at the end of a three-day UAB conference.

The UAB groups 275 Arab banks, including 11 central banks.

UAB economist Makram Sader said there was an average of 0.36 banks per 10,000 people in the Arab world, compared with 0.5-1.00 in developed countries.

The UAE had 2.1 banks per 10,000 people while the banking centre of Bahrain had 1.14, excluding offshore banking units.

Saudi project
RIYADH, Nov. 14, (Kuna): The Economic Offset Committee has approved the initial proposal relating to Al Yamamah project, which deals with the engineering, overhauling and development of advanced systems in the kingdom.

An official source at the Ministry of Defence and Aviation was quoted by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) as saying the cost of the project is estimated to be about 360 million riyals.

The British Aerospace and Dowty PLC companies will be the foreign partners with 50 per cent of shares while the rest of the shares will be held by Saudi investors.

The source said the project aims at marketing its products and services in the kingdom and the rest of Gulf states.

Oman raises output
DUBAI, Nov. 14 (Reuters): Oman's crude oil production in the fourth quarter of this year is averaging about 630,000 barrels per day (bpd), slightly above the 600,000 level earlier in the year, oil industry sources in the Gulf said.

They said non-Opec Oman was pushing up its output to boost oil revenues and production may continue to rise in 1990.

"The strategy to develop oil fields aims to achieve an all output of a daily average of 630,000 bpd this year by taking into consideration economic feasibility of the fields," an unnamed oil official at Oman's Oil Ministry was quoted as saying last week in an Omani newspaper.

Baghdad trade fair

A boost for Iraqi image

By M.C. Bose

Business Editor, Arab Times

BAHRAIN, Nov. 14 (AP): The 26th session of the Baghdad International Trade Fair reflects the new Iraqi image which will boost Iraq's economic and trade co-operation with participating countries and firms through increasing trade exchanges.

Under the auspices of President Saddam Hussein, a new session of the Baghdad Fair is being organised at the Baghdad International Fair Ground, which expresses Iraq's will in peace and continuing development and overall growth, according to Iraqi Minister of Trade Dr Mohammed Mehdi Saleh.

The minister said economic and management reform, initiated by President Saddam Hussein, reflects the glorious image of Iraq and its prosperity and progress. He said the new image would help create more opportunities for enhancing economic co-operation with the rest of the world.

The well-established trade event has attracted participants from nearly 62 countries. More than 2,500 exhibitors took part in the fair according to Fakhri Mirza, director general of the Fairs and Trade Services Company.

The new session will also enhance economic co-operation among various countries and boost friendly relations. He said the fair would stimulate the exchange of technical and technological expertise and provide more opportunities for industrial growth.

Dr Saleh said Iraq's constant policy was to give priority to Pan-Arab economic ties and open up new economic prospects for the movement of Arab investments.

"Within this policy Iraq also seeks the consolidation of co-operation among trade and economic organisations and businessmen with a view to exploring potentialities."

He added the new session would also offer a unique opportunity for co-operation between the representatives of countries and companies taking part in the fair on the one hand and those of Iraqi ministries and various economic sectors, as well as for negotiations to achieve the aims of this session and serve common interests on the other.

Dr Saadoun Hammadi, deputy prime minister and member of Revolutionary Command Council, said in his inaugural speech on Nov. 1, the process of economic and social development will go ahead at a more rapid pace than it had in war time.

"We will use all available economic, financial and human resources."



Ahmed Al Saleh (left) talking to Hammadi during a visit to Kuwait's KPC stall.

"Measures are also being taken to speed up competition within every sector and ease administrative and legal restrictions which often obstruct economic activity on all levels."

Abdullah Al Oflam, Kuwait's stall manager, has said more than 52 companies from Kuwait participated in the fair.

Engineer Rajan of Kuwait-based Delta Electronic Centre told the Arab Times his office exhibits a buyer's guide for trade in Iraq which was prepared in Kuwait. He has already collected a field level data on most of the Iraqi companies including export organisations and government offices responsible for purchases through a novel idea of publishing their names and activities 'free of charge' (to Iraqi organisations) in a commercial directory of Iraqi trade which will be published in Kuwait in March 1990.

He said that those who completed the data form were given a free copy of the buyers guide of selected companies inserted in trade with Iraq. This guide is a selection of advertisements from leading Kuwaiti companies organised into 12 groups of products.

The activities of M/s Delta were effectively handled by Rajan at the fair and had been benefited a large number of both Kuwaiti and Iraqi companies resulting in much good-will possible trade results.

Ahmed Al Saleh, the superintendent of public relations of KPC told the Arab Times the public response to the stall was good compared to last year. He said "this is the third time KPC is having its stall here."

Dr Hammadi visited KPC stall last week and discussed future prospects of oil markets.

Another notable stall among Kuwait companies was Kuwait Engineers Office (KEO).

KEO is a leading supplier of professional architectural, engineering services in the Arabian Gulf and Africa. Based in Kuwait, KEO has affiliate offices in several countries including Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, North Yemen, and Egypt.

KEO has been in operation for the past 25 years.

KEO ranks among the largest multi-disciplinary consulting firms in the Arab world, offering wide range of architectural and engineering services to international standards. KEO is well known for producing high quality, well-engineered architectural projects that are sensitive to the environment.

The firm has over the years brought this same commitment to the planning projects which have been awarded by governmental agencies, universities and private sector organisations. In the past five years, KEO has set up a civil environmental division specialising in the design of highways, sanitary networks, pumping stations and industrial waste treatment plants.

Also on display was Kuwait Oxygen and Acetylene Company (KOAC) set up in 1955, was the first gas manufacturing company in the Gulf and the Middle East.

Yesterday, First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan and Dr Saleh, minister of trade visited Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Yemen (both), USSR and Bulgaria pavilions. The two-week long fair will come to an end on Wednesday.

Dollar and gold fall in Europe

LONDON, Nov. 14, (AP): The dollar fell today against most major currencies in moderate European trading after the release of disappointing US economic data. Gold prices also fell.

Dealers said the dollar was knocked down by steeper-than-expected falls in US retail sales and industrial production figures for October.

Retail sales fell 1 per cent last month, compared with a predicted 0.8 per cent decline, and production output dropped by 0.7 per cent compared with a projected 0.2 per cent fall.

Dealers said the market's reaction was restrained before Thursday's scheduled release of US merchandise figures for September.

In Tokyo, the dollar rose 0.25 Japanese yen to a closing 143.80 yen. Later, in London, it edged up further to 144 yen.

Other late dollar rates in Europe compared with late Monday:

■ 1.8540 West German marks, down from 1.8615

■ 1.6380 Swiss francs, down from 1.6477

■ 6.2925 French francs, down from 6.3140

■ 2.0925 Dutch guilders, down from 2.1030

■ 1.3570 Italian lire, down from 1.3600

■ 1.1710 Canadian dollars, up from 1.1677

In London, the British pound edged up to \$1.5810 from \$1.5805 late Monday.

Gold bullion fell in London to a late bid price of \$390 a troy ounce, down from \$391.25 bid late Monday.

In Zurich, the metal fell to \$389 bid from \$390 bid late Monday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold rose \$4.34 to a closing bid of \$391.51.

Silver bullion was quoted in London at a bid price of \$5.31 a troy ounce, unchanged from Monday's late bid price.

Stocks
SYDNEY: A rise in the price of gold and a \$1.74 billion bid for IEL created buying interest and the All Ordinaries index rose 0.5 to 1,633.6.

TOKYO: The Nikkei index rose 18.52 to a record close of 35,768.64 in active trade but with no special factors influencing the market.

HONG KONG: Light local buying focusing on second and third liners nudged Hong Kong's Hang Seng index up 13.25 points to close at 2,779.58 in lacklustre trade.

SINGAPORE: Share prices closed marginally easier in this trading. The Straits Times industrial index shed 3.19 points to end at 1,333.25.

BOMBAY: Closed for holiday.

FRANKFURT: German shares slumped as market euphoria linked to East Germany's decision to open its borders faded. The Dax index slumped 1.8 per cent to 1,503.85.

ZURICH: Swiss shares closed lower. The All-Share index fell 11.7 to 1,092.8 points.

PARIS: French share prices were weaker by mid-session, as interest faded in stocks expected to benefit from events in West Germany. The CAC-40 index was 3.06 points lower at 1,816.45 by 1220 GMT.

LONDON: Shares were firm in quiet business with Wall Street firm on hopes of an easing of credit by the Federal Reserve. By 1546 GMT the FTSE 100 was 3.0 points up at 2,242.2.

NEW YORK: The stock market showed little change with economic news providing more evidence of a slowing in the US economy. The Dow was up three at 2630.

US output declines
WASHINGTON, Nov. 14, (AP): US industrial production fell 0.7 per cent in October, due in part to strikes in the aircraft industry and the effects of the California earthquake, the government said.

The Federation Reserve Board said October's drop followed no change in September's output and a 0.3 per cent gain in August.

The decline had been expected following the Labour Department's report earlier this month that the manufacturing sector had lost 13,000 jobs in October.

At the same time, the department reported a drop in the average manufacturing work week and said overtime was virtually nonexistent.

The manufacturing sector has been among the hardest hit by the Fed's tight-money policies as the US Central Bank tries to contain inflation by slowing the economy without tipping it into a recession.

EEC tariffs will not deter Saudi exports

JEDDAH, Nov. 14, (AP): New tariffs on six petrochemical products will not deter Saudi Arabia from trying to increase its exports to Europe, Ministry of Industry and Electricity Abdulaziz Al Zamil said yesterday.

The European Economic Community imposed duties on Saudi Arabian methanol, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, linear polyethylene and polyethylene, which were previously exempted from tariffs.

"This measure will not in any way affect Saudi exports to Europe and we will attempt through contacts between the EEC and the Gulf Co-operation Council to convince the European officials either to remove the new tariffs or at least to reduce them," Zamil said.

He said the imposition of the tariffs would not deter Saudi Arabia from trying to increase its petrochemical exports to Europe.

Saudi Arabia finds bauxite

BAHRAIN, Nov. 14, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia said today it had discovered bauxite ore which would supply Arab aluminium smelters and boost the region's aluminium industry.

"We are pleased to announce the discovery of bauxite ore in Saudi Arabia," Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Abdulaziz Al Zamil told the opening of the fourth Arab aluminium conference Arabal in Bahrain.

The three-day conference is being attended by 400 delegates from 44 countries.

"We hope exploitation of these reserves will in the future supply Arab aluminium smelters and add more stability to the industry," he added.

Aluminium smelters in Bahrain and Dubai import most of the alumina, extracted from bauxite ore, mainly from Australia.

Industry officials say the Saudi bauxite reserves were substantial but would be expensive to mine due to their location in an uninhabited northern area of the kingdom.

Zamil recalled that industrialists from the two sides will meet in Spain next spring to discuss industrial co-operation, the feasibility of setting up joint-venture projects and the possibility of exporting other products to Europe.

The general framework of the talks will be co-operation in light of the single European market coming into force in 1992.

In addition to Saudi Arabia, the GCC comprises Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

According to Zamil, Europe only receives 15 per cent of Saudi exports while southeast Asia and Japan receive about 34 per cent and the Middle East countries 30 per cent.

Unesco urged to act on debt for poor nations

PARIS, Nov. 14, (Kuna): Kuwait yesterday led four other countries in presenting a draft resolution urging the Unesco to examine the possibility of funneling part of foreign debts of the poor southern nations into projects of technological and scientific co-operation between the North and South.

The draft was co-sponsored by Morocco, Oman, Senegal and Hungary and passed unanimously.

Head of the Kuwait national Unesco committee Suleiman Al Enzi told the Unesco Congress the draft resolution takes into account the fact the foreign debts were impeding development in Third World countries and blocking Unesco from operating in those nations.

The Kuwaiti official recalled that H H the Amir of

Kuwait last year called for alleviation of the debt burden on the developing nations.

Al Enzi stressed that Kuwait was actively involved in all efforts aimed at closing the gap between the developing and industrial nations in areas of scientific and technological information and infields that are in the realm of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco).

Al Enzi told the conference "it seems to us possible that part of the South's debts could be used as funding resources for small projects that can be implemented within the boundaries of South-North co-operation in areas of education, science and technology."

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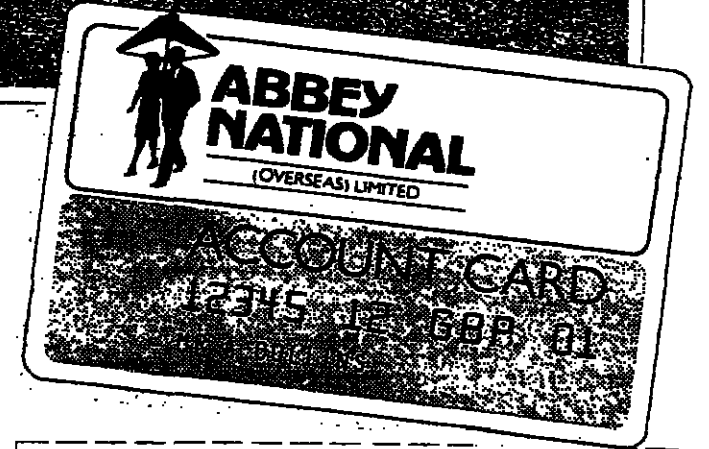
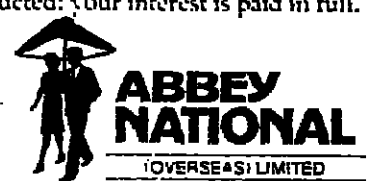
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• Salimiyah	• Dine Centre	5713120	• Versailles, Salimiyah	5715306
• Al Ghazaliyah Store, Alhadi	• Ikhlas Pharmacy	2625899	• Muhammad Corner, Fahadiah	3817339
• Sateenah, Fawcett	• Sima Pharmacy	5714182	• Dayah Co-op Society	2516275
• Fahadiah	• Doha Abdulla Salem Co-op	2618224	• Sultan Centre, Salimiyah	5719622/1/2
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	• Sahara Pharmacy	5711404	• Balaiah Corner	2447830

Call to improve trade discipline

Talks on Gatt end in Japan

HAKONE, Japan, Nov 14, (AP): Trade ministers of four major economic powers ended two days of talks here today, calling for improved enforcement of free trade rules under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

While differences of opinion among the United States, Canada, Japan and the European Economic Community remained unresolved after the informal talks, there was a clear consensus on the need to improve trade discipline under GATT, the mini-

sters told reporters. "About \$1 trillion in global trade is not covered or is inadequately covered by trade rules," said US trade representative Carla Hills.

"We need good, clear, enforceable rules... and clear procedural rules so we have a clear system for resolving disputes," Ms Hills said.

"We need vast improvement in the dispute settlement system, which is inadequate, to put it kindly," Canadian Minister for Trade John Crosbie agreed.

Officials participating in the talks said successful conclusion of the current Uruguay round of GATT trade talks would depend on giving the Geneva-based trade watchdog group greater power to enforce its decisions.

Today's talks centred on enforcement of rules on exports, anti-dumping measures and settlement of disputes within the GATT, officials said.

At the heart of GATT enforcement problems is the threat of unilateral actions by some GATT members embroiled in bilateral disputes, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Three of the trade ministers expressed strong concern over unilateralism... although no fingers were pointed," said a senior Japanese official who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

US officials have said slow progress in bilateral trade talks with Japan carries the risk of retaliatory action—a threat that other nations say would violate GATT's multilateral framework.

EEC Vice-President Frans Andriessen told reporters here that Super 301 sanctions were the "basic enemy" of GATT.

"We welcome every opportunity to attack unilateral tendencies," Andriessen said.

EEC officials sought to reassure other delegations that the European Economic Community would not impose its own unilateral actions in policies tailored for unification of EEC markets in 1992.

Andriessen countered US and Japanese concerns over local content requirements for foreign investors by saying EEC policy would prohibit such rules and would promote market opening measures.

Ms Hills, who reiterated the US position that its trade policies are in line with GATT rules, said the ministers also discussed participation by developing nations in the multilateral organisation.

While developing nations might be given extra time to adjust to GATT trade rules, they should "start being subject to clear and enforceable rules," she said.

The ministers expressed their determination to resolve their differences on trade policies by December 1990, when the Uruguay round of GATT is slated to end.

In order to do so, the 97 GATT nations must settle longstanding disputes over agriculture, textiles, tariff reductions, dispute settlement and enforcement of GATT trade rules, among other issues.

The four nations attending the Hakone talks remain divided on the issue of how to carry out across-the-board tariff reductions, on how to measure progress in ensuring increased market access and on agricultural trade, among other areas, participants in the talks said.

EEC monetary union talks fail

Delors plan now centre of foreign policy debate

BRUSSELS, Nov 14, (Reuters): European Economic Community (EEC) finance ministers failed yesterday to take a decisive step forward on monetary integration despite calls to speed up the process to respond to the breakneck pace of reform in Eastern Europe.

West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel, dismissing speculation that Bonn's attention may be deflected East by the lifting of the Iron Curtain, firmly rebutted French demands to push ahead faster with plans for economic and monetary union.

"The developments in Eastern, Central Europe and East Germany do not affect our aims on the question of monetary union," he told journalists during a one-day meeting of finance ministers on the controversial Delors plan.

The plan, which has set France and Britain at loggerheads for a year, has now been thrust into the centre of the foreign policy debate on how to respond to the dramatic upheaval in the Eastern bloc.

That issue is rapidly climbing to the top

of the agenda for December's summit of EEC leaders in Strasbourg and Monday's session of finance ministers showed a wide divergence of views.

But as the meeting was drawing to a close, French President Francois Mitterrand announced he had invited the leaders to a working dinner in the Elysee Palace on Saturday to discuss the events in Eastern Europe.

Diplomats suggested Mitterrand, who with EEC commission president Jacques Delors has been urging faster monetary

integration in response to the changes, was determined to devise a joint EEC strategy ahead of next month's Bush-Gorbachev summit.

Monday's meeting of finance ministers did succeed in allaying fears that Bonn might go slow on Western Europe now the Berlin Wall has been breached.

"West Germany certainly reaffirmed its clear-cut terms its commitment to the European Economic Community," said British Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major.

Fraud alarm

Millions siphoned off

WASHINGTON, Nov 14, (AP): Fraud and mismanagement could wipe out the retirement nest eggs of millions of working Americans in private pension programmes and saddle taxpayers with a multibillion-dollar bailout, according to government officials and agency documents.

An Associated Press investigation found that at least one of every four private pension plans audited by the government is violating the law—yet the odds of any individual programme being checked are barely one in a hundred.

In some cases, pension administrators have siphoned off millions of dollars by underreporting earnings. In others, employers never made required contributions, with pensioners discovering only upon retirement that the money was missing. Still other companies have simply dumped their pension obligations on a government insurance programme that already is \$1.5 billion in the red.

The most alarming reports come from the Labour Department's inspector-general's office, which warns that failure to shore up the laws and bolster enforcement will result in a taxpayer-funded bailout that could dwarf the recent savings and loan crisis.

"There's an insidious and steady siphoning off, which ultimately affects the employees," says Acting Inspector-General Ramond Maria. "I am convinced there is substantial fraud and abuse, the extent of which no one knows."

What makes the private pension system most vulnerable, officials say, is its size.

Frequently described as "the largest lump of money in the world," the nation's \$70,000 private pension plans hold assets of \$2 trillion, or roughly \$8,000 for every man, woman and child in the United States. Those funds cover some 76 million participants.

The inspector-general's comparison to the savings and loans crisis coupled with recent scandals at the department of housing and urban development have set off alarms in the nation's capital.

Congress is investigating, and the office of management and budget recently put the pension insurance system on a list of high-risk programmes.

The Labour Department audited 1,553 plans in 1989, with violations found in 492, or almost one-third. Violations were found in about one of every four programmes investigated from 1985 through 1987.

The government is the final insurer of many private pension assets through the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Bombay shares

As of 10.14.89			
Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs) Nov 14	Pr. Close	Open	Close
ACC	296	297	292
Alcan Chem	—	—	—
Alw Nis	—	—	—
Alu Fab	—	—	—
Ashtok Ley	91	91	90
Ashtok Ley	206.25	205	207.50
Atlas Corp	45.50	44	44
Auto Corp	—	68	70
Nat Index	385.81	383.09	383.09
Bajaj Auto	332.50	337.50	327.50
Bar Rayon	720	720	707.50
Blow Plast	—	—	—
Bom Dye	138.50	139	137
BK Bond	105.104	107.50	107.50
Colson	95	90	92.50
Consolid	—	—	—
Con Erika	3350	3300	3325
Ind Rayon	—	—	—
Indraya	2540	2530	2525
Con Spg	191.28	188.75	191.25
Colgate	—	—	—
Cromat Gr	—	—	—
DCM	13	12	13
Deep Fert	28	27	27
Enilap	70	68	70
Eni Hols	67	65	66
Esports	77.25	77	77.50
ESL India	720.25	708.00	708.00
ESL India	116.25	117.50	116.25
Ester Egg	103	100	102
Food Spl	105	105	105
Forbes	50	48	50
Gar Poly	36	35.50	36
Glaxo	103	100	102
GNFC	32.50	33	32.50
Grasim	109	111	109
Index for 10/11	46.50	47	43.85
CE Ship	177.50	178.75	175
GSFC	74.50	73.75	74.25
Gui Alid	10.50	9	10.50
Gui Heavy	10.50	9	10.50
Helo Honda	18	17	18
Hind Cite	970	970	970
Hind Lever	105	104	102.50
Hind Motor	142.50	140	143.50
Hind Motor	25.25	23	25
Hindalco	267	267	260
Hochst	1410	1400	1410
Ingersoll	412.50	205	215
ITC	70.50	70	69
Ind Org	48.75	48.50	47.50

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

Tokyo shares

Nikkei stock average: 35768.44			
(+/- 18.52)			
Volume: 900 mil shs			
Yen exchange rate: 143.73			
Name of stock	C	C	C
Advantest Corp	4740	+30	4770
Ajinomoto	2860	+60	2920
Alps Electric	1790	-10	1780
Amada	1920	+10	1930
Asahi Chem Ind	1210	+20	1230
Asahi Glass	2300	+30	2330
C. Itoh Co	1120	+30	1150
Canon Inc	1780	+10	1790
Casio Comp	1430	+10	1440
Dai Nippon	2360	0	2360
Daiichi Sanyaku	3800	-50	3750
Dainippon Ind	2620	-60	2560
Daiichi Koki	2230	+20	2250
Fanuc Ltd	7360	0	7360
Fuji Photo	4550	+10	4560
Fujitsu Ltd	1460	0	1460
Hitachi Credit	1870	-10	1860
Hitachi Koki	1970	+30	2000
Hitachi Ltd	1300	+40	1340
Hitachi Metal	1650	+40	1690
Honda Motor	1840	+20	1860
Iwatake Corp	4990	-70	4920
Kajima Corp	2250	-10	2240
Kawatsuki H I	1070	0	1070
Kobe Cast Iron	3430	0	3430
Komatsu Ltd	1410	0	1410
Kyocera Corp	3420	0	3420
Matsushita	3020	+20	3040
Mat Comm Ind	2290	0	2290
Mazda MC	1000	0	1000

French handouts to Renault

EEC to debate aid

BRUSSELS, Nov 14 (Reuters): The fate of French government handouts to carmaker Renault could be decided tomorrow when the European Economic Community debates whether to order the company to repay some or all of the money.

At stake is a debt write-off worth 12 billion francs (\$1.9 billion) which was approved by the European Economic Community executive in March 1988 on condition that the company completed a restructuring programme to cut capacity by 25 per cent.

EEC competition commissioner Sir Leon Brittan argues that, since Renault now says the full restructuring programme is not needed, it should be obliged to repay some or all of the money.

Commission officials regard it as a test case of the EEC's determination to enforce a strict policy of promoting free competition in the run-up to the giant single market planned for the end of 1992.

But they acknowledged that Britain faces a difficult task in persuading a majority of the 17-member executive to take such a politically sensitive step at their weekly meeting tomorrow.

"Preliminary discussions have generated more heat and smoke than light," one official said. "It is possible that there will be no final decision tomorrow."

Government aids to industry are banned under EEC rules if they are likely to distort competition in the 12-nation bloc.



Handy translator

A girl runs the world's first handy translation machine over imprinted English-language phrases, getting the Japanese version to appear on the display screen within seconds. Developed by the Japanese electronic firm Epson, the translator is about 15 cm (six inches) long, has a capacity of reorganising more than 30,000 words, and will be sold for ¥32,000 (about \$225). (Reuters wirephoto)

Bond future in doubt

Debt crisis too heavy

SYDNEY, Nov 14, (Reuters): The auditor of entrepreneur Alan Bond's flagship company has cast doubt on whether the brewing, media and property empire will survive its debt crisis.

There is some doubt that Bond Corp and the Bond Corp Group will be able to continue as a going concern," said Terry Underwood in notes on the Bond Corp Holdings annual report and balance sheet released today.

The report shows Bond Group debt is 6.58 billion dollars (\$4.9 billion), rising to 8.23 billion (\$6.2 billion) when convertible bonds are included.

British-born Bond, famed as a hero in 1983 for bringing the America's Cup to Australia, has suffered a series of reversals this year.

The company's \$14.07 million dollar loss for the year to June 30 has already set an Australian corporate record.

Underwood, a partner in accounting firm Arthur Andersen, said Bond Corp's liabilities exceeded assets by 1.36 billion dollars (\$1.02 billion) and it had a 115.9 million dollar (\$87 million) deficit in shareholders' funds.

Bond planned asset sales and debt repayment to help its finances, he said. But uncertainty about the timing of sales and value of significant assets gave rise to the doubts.

"During the reconstruction programme Bond Corp and the Bond Corp Group will be dependent upon the continued support from its lenders and its ultimate controlling entity, (Alan) Bond," he said.

He said the group's restructuring arm had breached its lending covenants on an \$80 million dollar loan (\$60 million).

Sign of economic slowdown

US retail sales fall

WASHINGTON, Nov 14 (Reuters): The US government said today that retail sales fell 1.0 per cent in October, the biggest drop in more than 2-1/2 years, and analysts said it was another sign of an economic slowdown.

A sharp 5.1 per cent fall in automobile sales led to the decline of \$144.5 billion, the Commerce Department reported. Excluding the volatile auto category, retail sales actually rose a modest 0.2 per cent.

It was the largest decline since a 6.7 per cent drop in January 1987 but it matched economists' expectations.

The drop followed a gain of 0.7 per cent in September. That figure was revised upward from the previously reported 0.5 per cent increase.

The decline is "one more indication the economy is definitely in a slowdown that will work into a mild recession," said Thom Brown, managing director of Rutherford Brown and Catherwood Brokerage.

The bond market rose slightly on the sign of further economic slowing, as the benchmark 30-year bond advanced 3/32 to 102-25/32, lowering its yield to 7.88 per cent from 7.89 per cent on Monday. The dollar dipped to 1.8565 marks from 1.8610.

Tunisia

asks debt relief for poor

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 14, (Reuters): Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali said yesterday that middle-income countries who are striving to improve their economies should be included in debt relief programmes.

In an address to the UN General Assembly, the President welcomed debt restructuring plans for developing nations but said there was no reason countries that had instituted substantial reforms should be excluded from such benefits.

"Consideration should be paid in this respect to the huge efforts they are exerting to improve their economies," Ben Ali said.

"We call again for the convening of an international conference to examine the question of indebtedness," he added.

Tunisia, which is spending about \$923 million annually to service its debt, has appealed for a ceiling of between 15 and 25 per cent of export revenues and a reduction or elimination of interest rates on public loans.

The country's poor rains and a locust plague, which have devastated the agricultural sector, are blamed for cutting economic growth to 1.6 per cent in 1988 after 5.8 per cent in 1987.

The Tunisian government aims to cut the cost of food subsidies within three or four years to 1.5 per cent of gross domestic product from about four per cent in 1989, an official spokesman said today.

The Subsidies Fund will spend 377 million dinars (\$394 million) in 1989 to bridge the gap between the cost of buying on the international market and the receipts from local sales, the spokesman for the National Economy Ministry said.

The government has forecast that gross domestic product in 1989 will be about 9,460 million dinars (\$9,890 million).

The government raised the prices of bread, rice, sugar and most other subsidised foods in August in an attempt to hold down costs, which have risen sharply in line with prices on the international market.

To cut costs further the government can either raise prices again or carry out a proposal to limit sales of subsidised foods to people on low incomes.

Mouli Zouaoui, the secretary of state in the ministry, said at the weekend that the government also planned to encourage domestic production of wheat, milk and cotton by liberalising the marketing procedures and slapping a tax on imported powdered milk, from which most milk is reconstructed.

Milk and wheat marketing are now state monopolies.

The extra cotton production would go to the Tunisian textile industry and increase the value added on textile imports.

Rockefeller backs Japanese buyout

TOKYO, Nov 14, (UPI): David Rockefeller today cheered the Japanese buyout of the New York landmark Rockefeller Centre but urged Japanese investors to follow in the footsteps of his famous forefathers by engaging in corporate philanthropy to take the sting out of anti-Japanese sentiment.

Business briefs

AACO Passengers: Secretary-General of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) Adil Al Dejani has said that its 18 Arab member airlines annually carry 27 million passengers and achieve \$4 billion revenue.

Dejani noted that those companies' share in the international air transport market reaches around 10 per cent, own 340 airplanes and are on their way to buy more than 60 new ones, and employ 85,000 cadres, mostly highly trained.

He announced that AACO's technical committee which wound up its meeting in Dubai last night reached an agreement on a comprehensive marketing system of computerised reservation for the Arab airline companies.

Nine Arab airlines namely those of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Jordan, Egypt, Libya, North Yemen, Iraq and Syria in addition to representatives of an American consultant company, had discussed the offers by three international specialised companies to implement the project. (Kuna)

Company director sacked: The supervisory board of the luxury goods and drinks group Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton fired Vuitton family patriarch Henry Racamier yesterday from his posts as vice president and director-general of the concern, officials said.

The supervisory board, headed by Frederick Chandon de Brialles, 'revoked the mandate' of Racamier, 77, in those jobs, they said, meaning he was sacked. The supervisory board said this was because of legal action that Racamier had taken against Lvmh as part of a fierce battle for power with Bernard Arnault, the 40-year-old financier who took over the chairmanship of Lvmh in January.

Proceedings launched against Lvmh were against the social interest of the group and therefore it was not possible to maintain their principal instigator, said the supervisory board in a statement. The decision evidently was a victory for Arnault though Racamier remains a member of the Lvmh board and chairman of Louis Vuitton. (UPI)

EEC social criticised: The leader of socialists in the European Parliament on Monday sharply criticised changes he claims have "watered down" the social charter aimed at assuring workers' rights in the European Economic Community.

Socialist group leader Jean-Pierre Cot said after a two-day meeting here that "the whole question of social rights has been watered down" by laws of ministers of the 12 EEC nations.

"The idea of a bill of rights has been eliminated and the charter now refers to freedoms and not rights," Cot said.

He said socialist legislators also wanted the charter to be binding on EEC governments. He said it currently refers to national measures to be implemented "where possible." (AP)

Fido Dido wins gold medals: Fido Dido, the recently-introduced star of 7UP International's new advertising campaign, "It's cool to be clear," and an emerging celebrity on the commercial television scene, has captured both a coveted gold medal award at the International Film and Television Festival of New York and a Gold Hugo from the International Chicago Film Festival.

His star vehicle, "Blackbird," the first spot in the new campaign, has been honored for outstanding television advertising in the soft drink category at the New York Festival and for animation in Chicago.

While many celebrations dream of winning awards for their first screen appearance, few achieve it. Consistent with his uncharacteristic personality, Fido is one of those rarities.

He began simply enough. Fido's life started on the back of a cocktail napkin a few years ago when New Yorkers Susan Rose and Joanna Ferone doodled him into existence. Since then, he has graced T-shirts, shorts, watches and other regalia worn by teenagers and young adults—7UP's primary target-around the world.

KD deposits ease: Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates eased in quiet trade yesterday following an influx of corporate funds, dealers said. The market was waiting for the results of Wednesday's Treasury bill issue.

Overnight fell to 7-3/4 1/2 per cent from 8-3/8 1/4 on Monday, with trades at 7-1/2. Tomorrow's next fell to 8-1/8 7-3/8 from 8-1/2 1/8, spot-traded at 8-1/4.

The Central Bank adjusted its dinar to dollar exchange rate to 029877/87 from 0.29889/99 on Monday. (Reuters)

KD foreign exchange rates: At the start of the foreign exchange trading in Switzerland yesterday one Kuwaiti dinar was trading at 5.4868 Swiss francs, from 5.4925 at the close here the previous session, the Swiss-Kuwaiti Bank reported.

S. Korean step to pep up economy

Special loans, cuts in interest

SEOUL, Nov 14, (AP): The government today announced emergency measures designed to stimulate South Korea's sluggish economy, ranging from cuts in interest rates to special loans for export industries.

In a joint news conference, four economic ministers said the red-count rates at South Korea's central bank, the Bank of Korea, were slashed immediately to 7 per cent, down 1 percentage point from the current 8 per cent a year.

study was a fluke, I would still recommend it because we help them live their lives better. And that's enough for me," he said.

However, the editorial added, "even those who are left with a residual degree of scepti-

cism.... would have to agree that the measures described by Spiegel.... all are at least life-enhancing, in stark contrast to the impoverishment suffered by many terminally ill

patients subjected to the vile diets, costly placebos, and exhausting introspections recommended by the more lunatic fringe

During shooting Smith says director Richard Pearce acted as his reality monitor when he started to go over the edge in his Nixon portrayal. "If I got too far into Nixon he'd pull me off a bit, realizing that a parody of Nixon wouldn't move anybody."

By the time Smith finished the part, he says "I loved Richard Nixon. I told that to Bob Woodward and he told me later, 'Oh my God, what are we going to do here.' But I explained I love him as a character. He's an extraordinary character to play."

"It's hard to put up with the fact that the best of everything in Moscow (and in the country as well) is for foreigners: hotels, special stores, etc.," he wrote.

Archaeologists make big find

Mayan civilisation older

ARCHAEOLOGISTS have identified what may be the oldest major centre of Mayan civilization in a remote Guatemalan jungle, indicating that the sophisticated pre-Columbian society originated as much as 400 years earlier than was previously believed, it was announced Monday.

The site, located in the dense tropical forest of Nakbe in northern Guatemala, features massive stone temples between 40 and 65 feet (12.1 and 19.8 m) high, richly carved monuments and thousands of artifacts.

"We think that we have the opportunity to investigate the very origins and dynamics of Mayan civilization," said Richard Hansen, a UCLA archaeologist who directed the project.

Hansen, in a telephone interview from his home in Rupert, Idaho, said the long-abandoned city at Nakbe, 350 miles (563.2 km) northeast of Guatemala City, includes 75 major structures and "hundreds and hundreds of mounds" indicating outlying buildings. He said it dates to the middle pre-classic Mayan period, or 600 to 400 BC.

For most of this century, archaeologists theorized that the Mayan civilization, the most advanced pre-Columbian society in the New World, did not make major advances in city culture until around 300 AD.

But another find at nearby El Mirador in Guatemala in the late 1970s, along with other sites found later, pushed back the emergence of sophisticated Mayan culture to about 200 BC. The Nakbe find pushes that history back as much as another 400 years.

"We're on the trail and we smell the possibility of unlocking the secrets of the origin of Mayan civilization," said Hansen, a research associate at UCLA's institute of archaeology, who verified the age of Nakbe through carbon dating. The Mayan civilization span-

ned much of Central America and was noted for its architectural and scientific achievements.

Among the finds at Nakbe are more than 65,000 pot shards, ceramics, and human and animal figurines, as well as large quantities of shell artifacts and stone tools.

One of the most significant discoveries is an intricately carved 10-foot (3 m) limestone slab that had broken into 45 fragments. It depicts two individuals in royal clothing facing each other, one of them with his hand extended and a finger pointing to a deity between them.

Hansen said he believes the monument depicts an important historical event in Mayan mythology, but declined to elaborate pending publication of an article on the find.

Other yet-to-be-excavated buildings at Nakbe are estimated to measure up to 150 feet (45.7 m) high, which would rival finds at the more modern Mayan centre of Tikal, Guatemala's most notable pre-Columbian site. Hansen said, however, that it was too early to tell whether the structures dated back to the same pre-classic period or were built later.

Hansen said Nakbe's pyramids, though similar to those at Tikal and at Palenque in Mexico's Yucatan, were broader and bulkier.

Nakbe was flourishing at approximately the same time as the Olmec civilization along the region's Gulf Coast, once thought to predate the Mayans by centuries.

"It will be interesting in future investigations to evaluate the interaction between the two cultures," Hansen said.

Another significant aspect of Nakbe is that it was built over an even earlier Mayan village, dating back to 1000 BC, that has been "preserved underneath it like a modern-day Pompeii."

Nakbe was first identified as a potential Mayan site in 1930 by a team from the University of Pennsylvania conducted aerial surveys.



Solo boss

Bruce Springsteen has told members of his longtime group, the E Street Band, that he won't be using them on his next album. A Springsteen spokesman told Newsweek that the boss chatted with each of his highly respected bandmates recently and told them "to feel free to pursue other things. He had long conversations with each of them. It seems to be in

Bruce's mind that he's not planning to use the band on the next album. "Most members of the E Street Band have been together for some 15 years. There are no indications of who will be playing on the next Springsteen album or even when it will be coming out.

160 years after death of the painter David still controversial

ATTACKED by historians as a ruthless opportunist, hailed by art experts as "the father of modern art," French painter Jacques-Louis David still provokes a love-hate reaction more than 160 years after his death.

A major exhibition of his work at the Louvre museum and the Palace of Versailles, shows the 18th-century painter at his most grandiose, his huge canvases dominating the rooms.

But a sinister thread runs through the collection, which is sprinkled with portraits of the victims of political assassination, including the famous depiction of revolutionary Jean-Paul Marat lying stabbed to death in his bath.

Other works were left unfinished because they were interrupted by turbulent events, the sitters no longer interested in posing when their families had been thrown into jail and sentenced to death.

The tragic subject matter and uneasy feeling it arouses in the visitor stems from the questionable role David played in the 1789 revolution, the bicentenary of which France celebrates this year.

David, who came from a modest merchant family, was not content to stand on the sidelines as France trembled on the verge of chaos. The young man — until then a fashionable artist courted by aristocrats — plunged into politics.

He was elected a member of the new republican parliament that took power after Louis XVI was deposed and was one of the men who voted in favour of executing the monarch.

"A typical specimen of those who lick the boots of the powerful, always ready to flatter the successful but pitiless towards the vanquished," commented historian Stefan Zweig in a biography of Queen Marie Antoinette, who followed her husband to the guillotine nine months later in 1793.

Zweig described David as both "one of the greatest cowards but also one of the greatest painters of his day."

As a member of the dreaded Committee of General Security, which went into full swing during the terror as the revolutionaries turned on each other, David took part in interrogations and purges, denouncing rival artists as traitors.

"Let us grind plenty of red," he said with relish.

Nearly 16,600 people are believed to have been executed from 1792-3, with half a million imprisoned.

David was a good friend of both Robespierre and Danton, the great revolutionaries turned bitter foes. But personal involvement did not stop him pushing for Georges Jacques Danton's death or recording his bloody end for posterity.

Spotting his former companion sketching him calmly as he prepared to die on the scaffold,

Danton hissed at David: "You have the soul of a lackey."

When Maximilien de Robespierre's influence was beginning to wane, David swore publicly to stand by him or die. But when the crucial parliamentary sitting came to David stayed at home, thus avoiding being sentenced to death with Robespierre.

Later he begged parliament for mercy, saying he had been misled. "The love of freedom never made him lose sight of what was in his own interests," comments one reviewer sardonically in the French magazine L'Express.

Danton was not the only individual whose last moments were captured by David's pencil. A chilling sketch of Marie Antoinette, sitting bolt-upright in the tumbrel carrying her through the streets of Paris, shows the legendary beauty reduced to a grim-faced woman, old before her time.

Revolutionary martyrs fared better. Anxious to give an atheistic age which had rejected Christianity new moral examples, David allotted them the same treatment as the Greek and Roman heroes of old.

When the political tide turned, David found new masters to serve. He was twice thrown into prison after Robespierre's death but soon freed, and he quickly became an enthusiastic supporter of General Napoleon Bonaparte.

He was nominated chief court painter and given the task of producing four massive tableaux recording the turning points of Napoleon's life, including his coronation as emperor.

"No one could more bitterly have denounced tyrants than did he during the revolution; but he would be one of the first to attach himself to the rising fortunes of the new dictator," commented Zweig.

But if some historians view him as a sycophant, art experts who admire David for starting a new, more rigorous school of neo-classical painting defend his right to change his mind.

"He was no more or less hypocritical than a lot of the people who believed in the revolution and then became Napoleon supporters," says art historian Antoine Schnapper, who helped organise the exhibition which runs until February.

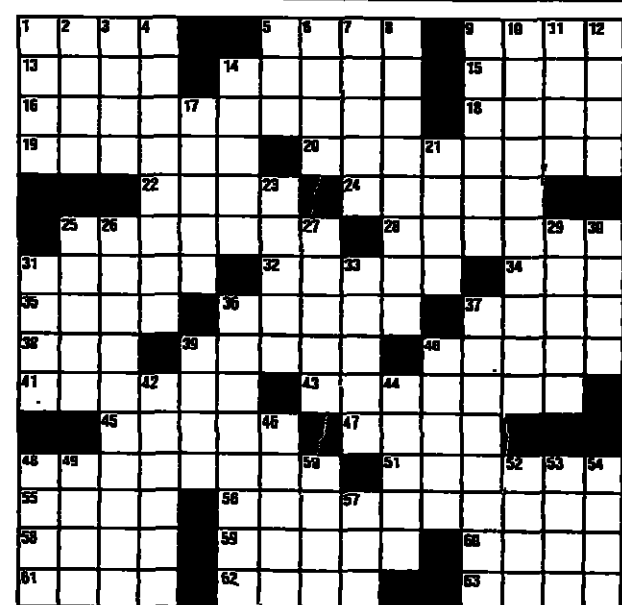
"You have to remember that for a lot of people at the time Napoleon was the legitimate heir of the Jacobin movement."

David outlived both his revolutionary friends and Napoleon himself, who died in exile on the island of St Helene.

Accused of regicide when the monarchy was restored with Louis XVIII, David fled to Brussels, where he set up a studio and continued painting until he died in 1825 aged 77.

As the Petit Larousse encyclopedia of painting puts it, "at his death, he was surrounded by respect and veneration."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- French clergyman
 - "Thou canst not say — it": Macbeth
 - Turkish titles
 - Legal right
 - In reserve
 - Food fish
 - Oddball of the flock
 - Kind of gin
 - Writers Ernest and Anya
 - Pirate
 - Tsp. or tbs.
 - Old French coin
 - Talent
 - Locale of the Spanish Riding School
 - Military greeting, in France
 - Mosquito genus
 - Andy Gump's spouse
 - Cuckoo
 - Handkerchief
 - Lascivious
 - looks
 - Riyadh natives
 - Rooted in one's nature
 - triangle
 - Jacob's son et al.
 - Chooses
 - Introduction
 - "Lest men — much at once": Browning
 - Goose eggs
 - Fish for bureaucrats?
 - Criteria: Abbr.
 - Works in
- DOWN**
- Swerve
 - Stockings
 - Shoe widths
 - Gaelic
 - Church vestments
 - Ill temper
 - Defeat
 - Eulogy
 - Fool follower
 - Per —
 - Perfect
 - Lacking life's necessities
 - Guarantee
 - Happy medium
 - Lotion
 - Ingredient
 - Crystal gazer
 - Very, in music
 - Geneflected
 - Rara —
 - Inspired
 - Hitter Hank
 - Aristocrats
 - Zeus turned her into a statue
 - Rutherford and Landers
 - Garb for a rani
 - Mod nightclub
 - Lineage
 - Safeguard
 - Left Comb. form
 - Modesty
 - Misplace again
 - Church areas
 - Glove material
 - Swanky
 - Newspaper section, for short
 - Singer Adams
 - Series of rows
 - Entities
 - Folklore creature
 - Elevations: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FIND DEF RIGGS
OLIO JADE ERIGOT
WALTZINGMATTILDA
LYE FENCE QUEUED
SAXES URN
APPLES ANTICIS
SLUR STAG TALER
WIPES ERR OTERO
AVIAN PEAS IDES
BELDAM VETOES
ETE RICAN
UNLACE ETUX OAF
NAUGHTY MARIETTA
UNCLE MITE STAN
MAUCES ATE TIONS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
AN OPEN LETTER TO OMAR

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 2
♥ A J 6 3 2
♦ 3
♣ A K 10 9 7

WEST
♠ J 9 8 5
♥ 10 9 8 5
♦ K 6
♣ Q 8 4

EAST
♠ K
♥ K Q 4
♦ J 10 9 8 7 2
♣ 6 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 6 4 3
♥ 7
♦ A Q 5 4
♣ J 2

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass 1♥ 2♦ 2♠
Pass 3♠ Pass 4♠
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

Dear Omar:
Since it was at your suggestion that I entered the Epson World Pairs, I was somewhat surprised by the comments of you and your fellow analysts on this deal. I was among those who reached four spades rather than three no trump on the auction shown. West led the king of diamonds, and your com-

mentary forecast that I would lose two trump tricks.

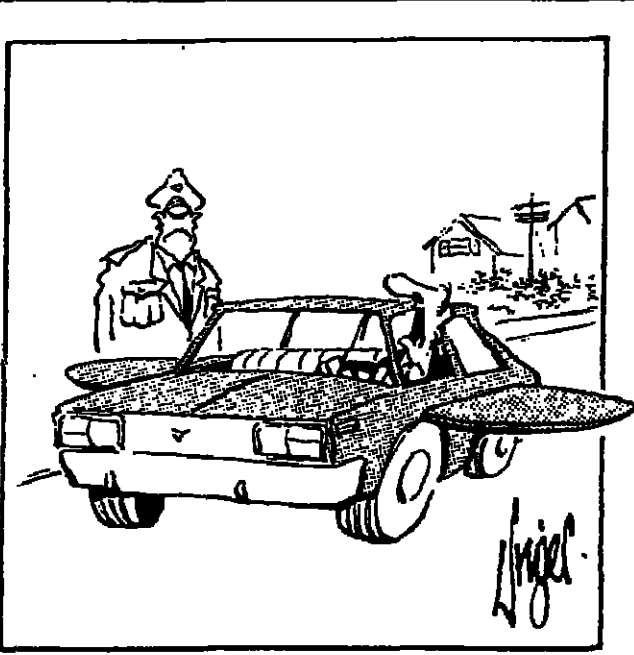
A lesser mortal, perhaps, but it is not for nothing that I have earned the sobriquet of Trump Coup Tommy. This hand was tailor-made for my unique talents.

I won the first trick with my ace of diamonds, crossed to the ace of hearts and the hand began to be interesting when I led a trump from dummy and East produced the king! For me, the rest was routine.

I crossed to the king of clubs and ruffed a heart. Back to the table with a diamond ruff for another heart ruff, then to the ace of clubs to discard a diamond on the good jack of hearts. A club ruff reduced my hand to the queen-ten of trumps and queen of diamonds, while West was down to nothing but three trumps. I simply led my diamond and poor West had to ruff and then lead from the jack of spades into my queen-ten tenace. An easy 12 tricks.

I don't know if you've been living it up in Paris, but I would advise you to cut it out and play more bridge. Obviously, you're getting rusty!

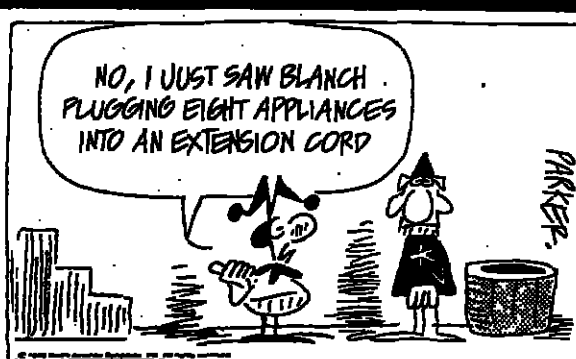
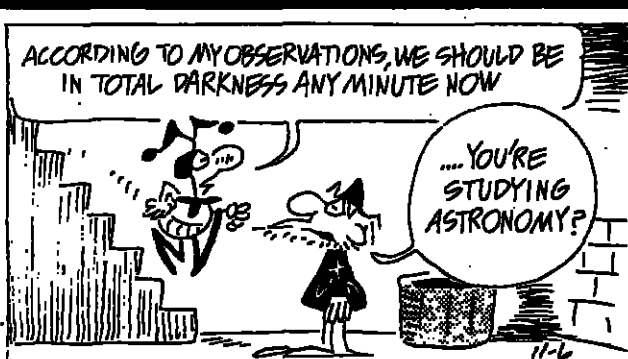
Sincerely yours,
Tommy



"If I keep to the speed limit I'll never get airborne!"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have something to be very pleased about. You should however not rest on your laurels or relax your efforts. It would be wrong for you to jump to conclusions. Be considerate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Avoid making light of a small infection — do not permit it to get worse. You should not allow some small setback to discourage you. Have a good laugh at yourself. Be sensible.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

The Moon's better influence will help you to achieve what you have set out to do. You should concentrate on what is really most important. Make sure you do not sacrifice accuracy for speed. Be truthful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should not allow yourself to be overtaken by gloomy thoughts. Your lucky numbers are 18 and 36. Take extra care when on the road walking or driving. Make sure you are correctly dressed for the occasion. Be tactful.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Do not just trust to luck even though you may well have some. You will be better able to sort out your ideas. You should not be too slow but nor should you force the pace. Be kind.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will tend to get caught up in secondary matters and should take preventative action. A small cold or infection should not be neglected. Do not allow your attention to wander. Be generous.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will discover what you have been doing wrong and know how to deal with it. You should not allow yourself to become obsessed by a grievance. Make sure your partner knows of your love. Be moderate.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will be able to make good progress but you must not underestimate an impediment. Make sure you leave enough time for your personal affairs. You are liable to mislay things, so take care. Be sensible.



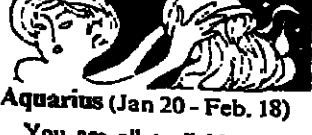
Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

The Moon's a less favourable influence will not help you to become less nervous. However a little more willpower will help you to compensate. Do not eat anything that is slightly mouldy, particularly if it is meat. Be hopeful.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will be able to make progress in a direction that has been lagging behind. You should not allow your emotions to get out of hand. Make sure you do not allow some small setback to discourage you altogether. Be consistent.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You are all too liable to leave doors and windows unlocked. Beware. You should do all you can to restrain your temper. Try to use just a little more commonsense. Be reliable.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You are all too liable to become involved in something that does not really concern you. Your intuition is liable to lead you astray — trust instead to reason. Keep an open mind and do not get set in your opinions. Be tolerant.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

هكذا من اجل

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Must have transferable residence and good command of Arabic.
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Abu Adel

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I, Balbir Singh Bessan, (son of Mr. Karthar Singh Bessan), holder of Indian passport No. W250823 hereby wish to change my name to Balbir Singh
(AT4-50272-2)

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SALMIYA, opp. Bahar Video, Building No 7, 3rd floor, Flat No. 9. Sharing accommodation with water, electricity and tele facilities for one bachelor. Bus routes 19, 30, Rent KD25. Tel. 5815291, after 1 pm. (AT4-50263-3)
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Zendejas scores field goal in last two seconds

Oilers rally to overcome Bengals

HOUSTON, Nov. 14, (AP)—Tony Zendejas' fourth field goal of the game with only two seconds left capped a fourth-quarter duel between Warren Moon and Boomer Esiason that gave the Houston Oilers a 26-24 victory over Cincinnati and put the Bengals' hopes of another Super Bowl trip in deep jeopardy.

Zendejas' 28-yard kick came at the end of a 70-yard drive engineered by Moon that began with 4:47 remaining after Esiason had twice brought the Bengals from behind.

Esiason, who left last week's game in the first quarter with a bruised lung, threw a 73-yard touchdown pass to tight end Rodney Holman after the Bengals had fallen behind 16-13. He then completed two long passes to set up Jim Breach's 38-yard field goal with 7:27 left that provided a 24-23 Cincinnati lead.

The loss left the Bengals at 5-5, two games behind Cleveland in the AFC Central and a game behind the Oilers, 6-4. Cincinnati also has what appears to be the toughest remaining schedule of the three.

The heroics all came in a fireworks-filled fourth quarter that started after Zendejas had kicked field goals of 32, 42, and 37 yards over 4-1/2-minute span late in the third period and early in the fourth to give Houston a 16-13 lead.

All were set up by the Oilers' special teams, which also had scored the Bengals' only touch-

down to that point when Johnny Meads blocked a Lee Johnson punt and Eugene Seale fell on it in the end zone.

Just 57 seconds later, the Bengals were back in front, courtesy of the Esiason-to-Holman pass.

That lead lasted less than 90 seconds. Moon hit Leonard Harris for 36 yards, got a 15-yard face-mask call tacked on, then hit Harris again for 23 yards and a touchdown, the first of Harris' four years in the NFL.

Back came the Bengals as Esiason hit Tim McGhee for 40 yards and Holman for 20 to set up the breach kick that made it 24-23 with 7:33 left. But after each team stalled, Moon started the Oilers on their winning drive, beginning with a 20-yard pass to Haywood Jeffries, and including a 10-yard run for a first down on third and 10.

The game hardly started that way.

Cincinnati led 14-7 at half-time, taking advantage of Houston penalties for its first two scores. The game started out like a brawl — there were five fights in the first quarter alone.

The first touchdown came on Brooks' 58-yard burst up the middle on a third-and-six play 48 seconds into the second quarter, the second on Craig Taylor's 1-yard run with 13 seconds left.

Brooks, who got 131 of his 141 yards in the first half, would never have gotten the chance had not Richard Johnson been called for unsportsmanlike conduct for taunting during a scuffle in which

Cris Dishman was also called for a blow to the face. It came with Cincinnati facing a fourth and 17 from its own 4-yard-line. The automatic first down gave the Bengals new life that they turned into an 89-yard drive for the touchdown.

Taylor's score was set up by an 18-yard pass interference call on Patrick Allen.

Midway through the period, Houston drove from its own 42 to the Cincinnati 2. But coach Jerry Glanville gave up the almost sure field goal to go for it, and Moon was dropped for a 1-yard loss by Jim Dikow.

On the next series, however, William Fuller sacked Esiason for a 12-yard loss to the 1 and on

the next play, Meads blocked Lee Johnson's punt. The ball went straight into the air and Seale emerged from a pile of players with it to tie the game with three minutes left in the half.

Zendejas' 32-yard field goal cut it to 14-10 with 3:28 left in the third quarter following an 8-play, 28-yard drive.

Less than two minutes later, Zendejas cut it to 14-13 with a 42-yarder set up when Johnson, unable to get off a punt, was tackled by Seale for a 4-yard loss.

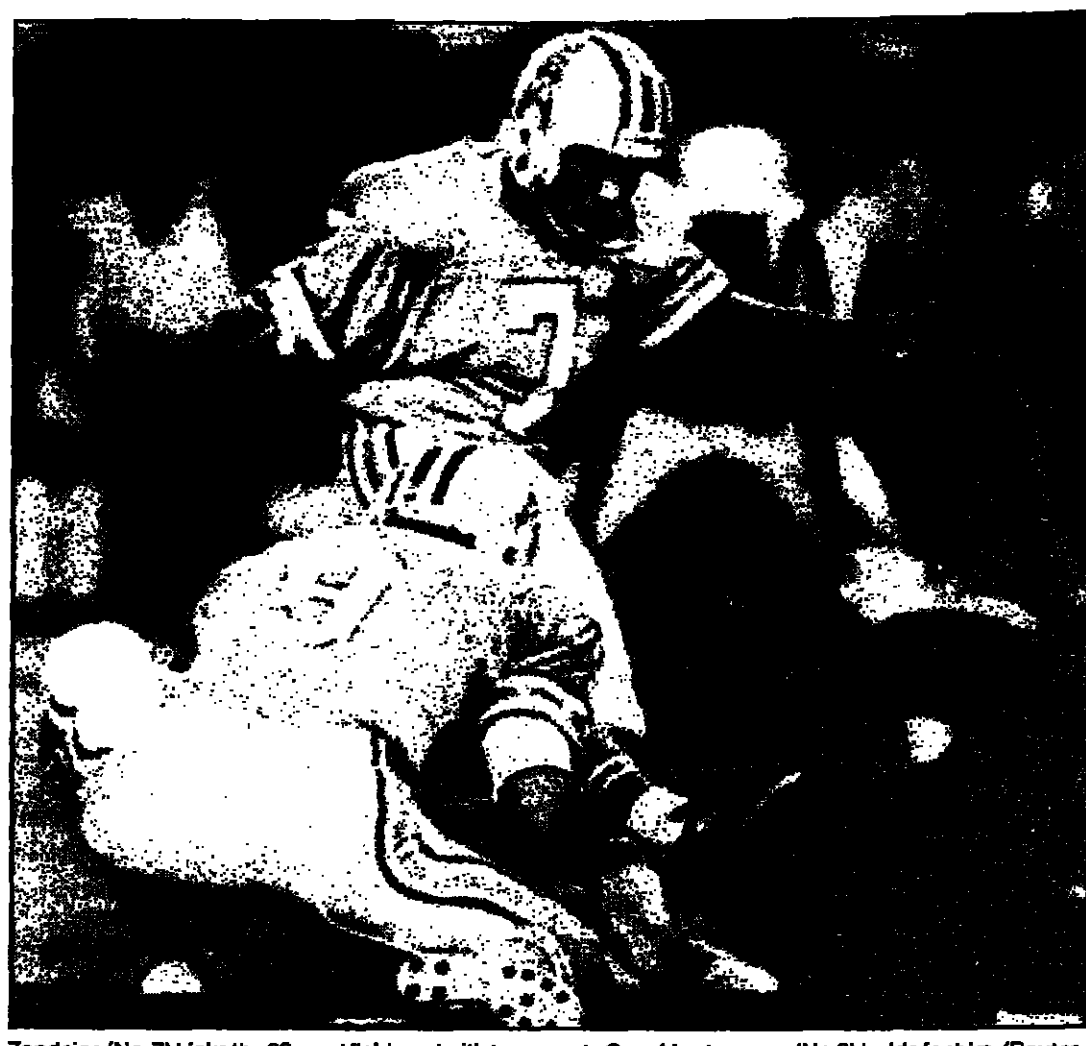
On the ensuing kickoff, Kendall Smith was stripped of the ball and Scott Kozak recovered at the 24, setting up Zendejas' 37-yarder that gave the Oilers their first lead.

Standings

American Conference						Central Division					
Eastern Division						Western Division					
	W	L	T	PF	PA		W	L	T	PF	PA
Buffalo	7	3	0	279	217	Minnesota	7	3	0	207	168
Miami	6	4	0	211	226	Chicago	6	4	0	252	187
Indianapolis	4	6	0	174	192	Green Bay	5	5	0	241	245
New England	3	7	0	181	244	Tampa Bay	3	7	0	212	274
N.Y. Jets	2	8	0	182	272	Detroit	2	8	0	180	250
Central Division						Western Division					
Cleveland	7	3	0	250	150	San Francisco	9	1	0	291	161
Houston	6	4	0	272	253	L.A. Rams	6	4	0	245	218
Cincinnati	5	5	0	235	194	New Orleans	5	5	0	236	198
Pittsburgh	4	6	0	123	240	Atlanta	3	7	0	174	256
National Conference						Results					
Eastern Division						Sunday's games					
	W	L	T	PF	PA		W	L	T	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	8	2	0	229	167	San Diego	20	10	0	9	0
Philadelphia	6	4	0	210	194	Denver	16	16	0	Kansas City	13
Washington	5	5	0	223	219	Detroit	31	3	0	Green Bay	22
Phoenix	5	5	0	193	213	Buffalo	30	3	0	Indianapolis	7
Dallas	1	9	0	139	259	San Francisco	27	5	0	N.Y. Jets	27
						Minnesota	24	8	0	Tampa Bay	10
						New Orleans	28	2	0	New England	24
						Washington	30	1	0	Philadelphia	3
						San Francisco	27	5	0	San Diego	10
						Cleveland	17	7	0	Seattle	7
						Phoenix	24	8	0	Dallas	20
						L.A. Rams	31	3	0	N.Y. Giants	10
						San Diego	20	10	0	L.A. Raiders	12
										Monday's game	
						Houston	26	10	0	Cincinnati	24

Results

Sunday's games		Monday's game	
20	Pittsburgh	26	Cincinnati
16	Kansas City		
31	Green Bay		
30	Indianapolis		
31	N.Y. Jets		
24	Tampa Bay		
28	New England		
10	Philadelphia		
45	Atlanta		
17	Seattle		
24	Dallas		
31	N.Y. Giants		
14	L.A. Raiders		



Zendejas (No. 7) kicks the 28-yard field goal with team-mate Greg Montgomery (No. 9) holds for him. (Reuters wirephoto)

49ers: the best in NFL

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 14, (AP)—No time-wasting review by the replay officials is needed. The San Francisco 49ers have provided conclusive evidence that they are, at least for now, the best team in the NFL.

But like a baseball team in the midst of a no-hitter, the 49ers are resisting such a dangerous notion. Their coach Lou Holtz said after yesterday's 45-3 dismantling of Atlanta extended the 49ers' winning streak to 10.

"To say that we are the greatest team... after this game is ridiculous," safety Ronnie Lott said after yesterday's 45-3 dismantling of Atlanta extended the 49ers' winning streak to 10. "We're not a great team. It doesn't mean that you played well when you win 45-3 against a team that didn't execute."

That kind of diplomacy is common for a team on top of the heap. Bill Walsh was a master at conveying the "under-siege" mentality, and his coaching successor George Sefert has picked it up fast. He called it "nagging" and "tormenting" to be 9-1 and have to fight off postseason thoughts this early.

Such a plight. The 49ers have outscored their last three opponents 99-26. Their defense allowed only one touchdown in those games. They posted season bests against the Falcons for points, first downs (30), rushing yardage (234), total yardage (515), points allowed, passing yardage allowed (119) and total yardage allowed (192). Their magic number to clinch the NFC West over the Los Angeles Rams is four, and four of their six remaining games are at home, including Sunday against Green Bay.

Yet there is legitimate fodder for 49ers' worry.

They're only 1-1 against teams with winning records. Nagging injuries are mounting, nine players were banged up in the Falcons game, although only rookie running back Keith Henderson (strained right knee ligament) will miss a game, or two. The running game is just coming around.

And history shows that their two worst playoff losses followed season-ending hot streaks: 49-3 to the New York Giants three years ago and 36-24 to Minnesota after a 13-2 regular season in 1987.

A slump, Lott suggested seriously, might do wonders for the team's chances to repeat as Super Bowl champions.

"I can't wait until we have to deal with the adversity the Rams are (Los Angeles lost four in a row before winning Sunday)," he said. "When we get in that situation, it's going to be interesting to see how this team deals with it."

"That's the measure of a football team, not how it does when things are going well, but when you have adversity."

It's mostly the veterans, mindful of past letdowns, who talk cautiously.

IOC confirms ban

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Nov. 14, (Reuters): Tennis players taking part in this week's Johannesburg Prix tournament will be banned from competing at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) confirmed yesterday.

An IOC source agreed with spokeswoman Michelle Verdier's recent confirmation that a ban would be enforced in line with the IOC's decision in August to bar athletes who continue to compete in South Africa.

Verdier told Reuters: "We sent a circular to all National Olympic committees and international federations informing them of the decision taken by the IOC session in Puerto Rico on August 30."

"They were asked not to include any athletes who took part in sporting events in South Africa after that date in their lists for the Barcelona Games as they would not be accepted."

Among the international entries for the South African tournament are Australia's Wally Masur, Israeli Amos Mansdorf and the South African-born American Kevin Curren, a Wimbledon singles finalist in 1985.

Mansdorf did not survive the first day of the Johannesburg tournament, losing to unseeded American David Pate yesterday.

Malone takes Jazz to win over Bullets

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 14, (AP)—Karl Malone had 33 points and 16 rebounds and John Stockton 30 points and 16 assists, leading the Utah Jazz to a 106-93 victory over the Washington Bullets last night.

The Jazz led 50-40 at the half but took control with 16-7 surge to start the second half.

Redell Eackles led Washington with 24 points, but the Bullets' two leading scorers, Jeff Malone and Bernard King, finished with four and seven points, respectively. Malone averaged 27.5 points as the Bullets won five of their six games, while King came in averaging 18 points.

Hawks 112, Magic 104. Dominique Wilkins scored 34 points and Moses Malone 28 points and 14 rebounds as Atlanta took advantage of Orlando's eight missed layups in the fourth quarter.

The Magic pulled within two points eight times in the third period and drew even twice, but never led while losing its third consecutive game.

The Hawks led 102-99 with 2:15 left, then outscored the Magic 10-5 to win their second consecutive game.

Hyderabad rout SCC

HYDERABAD Cricket Club opened their campaign in the Honda Cricket Tournament with an emphatic victory over Salimya Cricket Club at the latter's home ground on Friday.

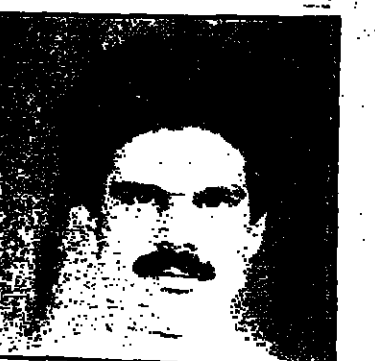
Batting first, the HCC openers Ashfaq R. Khan and Saleem were subjected to some hostile bowling, especially by Noel who extracted awkward bounce from a damp pitch. Saleem was bowled by Noel for five when the total had reached 31.

Ashfaq kept batting well at one end while losing partners at the other. Rodney and Ashfaq Sr went back in quick succession. Arun Nair joined Ashfaq and the two of them put on 40 for the fourth wicket.

Arun was, however, bowled by Waheed for 22 runs and Ashfaq who by now looked set for a big score, was given run out, having made 58 runs with seven hits to the boundary.

Masood and James took up the challenge and scored at a brisk pace, thus giving a boost to the run rate. Both were out in the quest of quick runs. James, jumping out to drive, was bowled for 27 and Masood ran himself out for 16.

At the end of 25 overs, HCC



Ashfaq: hit 58

had reached 150 for the loss of eight wickets. The wicket-takers for SCC were, Aslam (2), Noel, Waheed and Sohail (apiece).

SCC started badly, losing Saleem, Riaz, Waheed and Masood before reaching a total of 20. Only Sohail and Choudhry played positively, especially the latter who hit two sixes and two fours in his sweet knock of 27 before being caught on the mid-wicket fence by James off Ashfaq Sr. SCC were all out for 89 runs, leaving HCC winner by 61 runs.

Ronny Jr and Ashfaq bagged two wickets each and Saleem, Peter and Tariq got a wicket each.

Lanka Colts thrash Lions

AN excellent spell of left-arm orthodox-spin bowling by Ralph de Niese, well supported by Nalaka Wijesuriya carried Lanka Colts — Trico — to a resounding 9-wicket victory over Lanka Lions in a Burud Trophy League cricket match at the EPI grounds on Friday afternoon.

Put into bat under heavy cloud cover, the Lanka Lions batsmen were never at ease and succumbed to the consistent pressure applied by the Colts bowlers. With the total on nine Jalden was out lbw to a well pitched up delivery from Nalaka.

Nihal, the other opener, followed a couple of overs later to a well-judged catch taken by Senaka at short square leg off Solomonz for 12. Rani was next out, bowled by a beautiful yorker from Nalaka who in the same over sent Ray Fernando's stumps cartwheeling for a duck.

With the total at 19 for 4, the Lions were in dire straits. Nalin-dra and skipper Peru briefly tried to repair the damage by taking



Ralph de Niese

whatever singles they could. However, a smart bit of work by wicket-keeper Chris had Peru run-out for 07.

Ralph coming in to bowl soon made his presence felt when he surprised a "forward defensive" Dhammika bowling him between bat and pad for four. Top scorer Nalin-dra, who was batting sensibly, was soon deceived by a "flipper" from Ralph to be bowled 21 runs which included some well-timed drives.

With left-hander Nalin caught off Oliver at mid-off for a

duck by a back-peddling Rowle, the Lions appeared to have given up hopes of a recovery. Ralph then accounted for both Chula and Dissanayake to wind up with astounding figures of 4 for 11 off five overs.

Nalaka, with impressive figures of 3 for 9 off six overs, and Oliver and Solomonz with a wicket each, added to the downfall of the Lions who were bundled out for a paltry 67 runs.

With an asking rate of only 2.23 runs per over, the Colts openers skipper Hiran and Nalaka made short work of the modest Lions total scoring 64 runs in just over 10 overs before Nalaka fell to a well-judged catch on the long on boundary trying to finish off the game with six.

Nalaka's quick 37 runs contained 2 fours and a glorious pull to mid-wicket for 6. Hiran with an usual confident and responsible innings remained unbeaten on 27 with Chris not out on two, to see the Colts win comfortably by nine wickets with 18 overs to spare.



555
Stands out for taste

Canadian swimmer dies at 25

MONTREAL, Nov 14, (Reuters): Canadian star Victor Davis died yesterday, two days after the 25-year-old Olympic gold medalist and world champion swimmer was struck down by a car. Hospital spokesman Jacques Charbonneau said.

Davis had been in a coma with a fractured skull, brain haemorrhaging and spine injuries since arriving at Montreal's Notre Dame Hospital early on Saturday morning.

Davis, who retired from competitive swimming in July, won a gold medal in the 200-metre breaststroke in world record time at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. That record stood for five years until American Mike Barrowman broke it in August.

He also won a silver medal in the 100-metre breaststroke at Los Angeles and added a silver as a member of the Canadian 4 x 100-metre medley relay team at last year's Seoul Games.

"Doctors declared him clinically dead at 1 p.m. (1800 GMT)," Charbonneau told reporters at Notre Dame Hospital.

Davis had been given little chance of surviving the accident, in which he was struck by a car outside a suburban bar early on Saturday morning.

Charbonneau said that at the family's request, Davis' body remains connected to life-support systems to keep his organs which were not injured in the accident viable for use in transplants.

Police have said they are treating the case as a traffic accident and have turned it over to the accident investigation squad.

Police said a 19-year-old man reported the incident shortly after Davis was struck, but they would not identify the driver and no charges have been filed.

But Davis' family and friends have questions about the incident and his family has hired Raphael Schacter, a top Montreal criminal lawyer.



Victor Davis

Brazilian GP returns to Sao Paulo

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov 14, (Reuters): Next year's Brazilian Grand Prix motor race — second event of the 1990 World Championship — is to be held in Sao Paulo for the first time in 13 years.

Mayor Luiz Erundina signed a contract with race organisers yesterday making Sao Paulo's Interlagos circuit the home of the race for the next five years. The race is scheduled for March 25.

Interlagos was the venue of the first Brazilian Grand Prix in 1973 won by local hero Emerson Fittipaldi. But after complaints about the bumpy conditions from team officials and drivers, the race was switched to Rio de Janeiro's Jacarepagua track in 1978.

Seles crushes Martinez

Sabatini blasts Magers

NEW YORK, Nov 14, (Reuters): Third seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina began the defence of her title with a 6-4 6-1 win over American Gretchen Magers at the \$1 million Women's Tennis Championships yesterday.

Sabatini, winner of four titles this year, had trouble finding her range early. But after taking the first set, she overpowered the hard-serving 28th-ranked Magers.

In the tournament's opening match, a battle of newcomers to the 16-player season finale, talented 15-year-old Yugoslav Monica Seles, seeded sixth, dealt with Spain's Conchita Martinez 6-0 6-1 in 49 noisy minutes.

"In the beginning I was little bit scared. My legs were shaking," Seles said after her first-round victory.

If the seventh-ranked Seles was nervous, it was not apparent on the blue carpet of Madison Square Garden.

The 10th-ranked Martinez simply had no weapons to hurt Seles, who grunts dramatically with each stroke.

Seles, considered a top prospect to give world number one Steffi Graf a run for her money in the 1990s, scored on numerous touch drop shots after driving Martinez deep with her powerful two-handed backhand or unusual two-fisted forehand.

She ripped through the first nine games before allowing Martinez onto the scoreboard at 6-0 3-1, and finished off the 17-year-old Spaniard with a perfectly executed backhand cross-court



Sanchez (left) returns a shot to Lindqvist while Seles strikes to reach a return from Martinez. (Reuter wirephoto)



passing shot.

"It's good I jumped off in the beginning so she couldn't catch me," Seles said.

Magers, the last player to qualify for the women's equivalent of the men's masters, held her own against Sabatini through the first set, which proceeded on serve for six games.

"It was a little bit tough in the beginning. She was serving very well and I was a little slow," Sabatini said.

Sabatini scored the lone break of the opening set when Magers double faulted on the fourth break point of the seventh game to give the Argentine a 4-3 lead.

Sabatini, 19, broke again four 2-1 in the second set and then, serving much more powerfully,

just steamrollered her 25-year-old opponent.

Sabatini sandwiched another break between love service games at four and six, which she held with a service winner and an ace. She broke Magers once more by drilling a backhand down the line to advance to the quarter-finals.

"When I served well I didn't have any problems," said Sabatini, one of only two players to beat Graf this year.

Fourth seed Arantxa Sanchez of Spain, the other player who defeated Graf in 1989, completed the opening night's seeded sweep.

The 17-year-old French Open champion, making her debut in this elite event, fought off a tough

challenge from 16th-ranked Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 7-6-3.

The far more experienced Lindqvist, 26, was in the match throughout, but dropped the tiebreak 7-5 on an unforced error when she netted an easy forehand.

Sanchez took the tight second set with a service break in the eighth game when Lindqvist double faulted on the Spaniard's lone break point of the set.

"It's my first time playing the Virginia Slims Championships. I've always wanted to play at Madison Square Garden," said the always enthusiastic teenager.

"All the matches are tough here and I'm very excited that I passed the first round," she said.

Equalisers hold MEE

WEEK six of the Mouchel Wednesday Darts League 1989-90 season proved to be very interesting as far as many of the top teams were concerned. Equalisers first point, at the expense of leaders Middle Eastenders was earned after a 3-3 draw, thanks to 140s by Dave Ball, Ron Fowler and Ihsan Soboh, and with Has Beans and Soweto Slingers both winning 5-1, the lead is now just one point.

Richard Ellis was once again on form for the Slingers with another 140, whilst Lewi Jorgensen's 140 and Geoff Clark's 5 high scores also helped see off the Noddies challenge. Chuckers remain the dark horses of the League in fourth with a game in hand, even though they only just beat Flyers as Captain Wizz Wilson bagged his 140.

Top two ladies teams MEE and Pacifists both lost which has completely opened up their league. With only 2 points separating the first 8 teams, a tense Ladies League season is obviously in prospect. Bulls Hitters' Judith Cole scored a 134 in her teams defeat of Filies, who at present are not reproducing last year's form. Noddies and Absolutely both whitewashed their opponents with clinical performances, and Zero-Down's walk over against Two Ply has thrust them to the top of the pack with a game in hand. After a dodgy start Barbed Comments are proving to be a mouthful for more than just the Pacifists as this was their 4th successive win, all against fancied teams.

In both Leagues it was a week

for firsts. An uncharacteristically bad start for Tossers was turned around at Blackouts with a first victory and a 140 for Martyn Evans. Two undefeated sides Noddies and Dinar Soarsers bit the dust at Slingers and Bulls Hitters, where John Watson also registered a 140. An under strength four play fulfilled their fixture with Zero-Up and avoided defeat, but did succeed in giving the new boys their first point, lifting them off the bottom for the first time. Bottom teams in both League now are No Hoppers and Northern Lights, who provided useful wins for Fintastics and Fintasia to ease them towards the middle of the table.

Two other high scorers this week were Absolutely's Mike Durkin with 5, and Wearrapeel's Nick Harvey with 4, which keeps both of them closely behind Ian Thomas in the battle for the High Scores Trophy. Filies Evaline Breznik already has a commanding lead for the Ladies High Scores Trophy with 4, ahead of the only other girl to hit more than one, Human Beans' Hilary Hogan, who has 2. Mike Durkin makes another appearance as the leader for the Highest Finish Trophy with 109, whilst the only recorded Ladies Finish is that of Eileen Watters' 67 against Lady Tossers last week.

The full results summary for this weeks Mouchel Wednesday Darts League fixtures were as follows, with ladies' scores in brackets.

S. Slingers (0) S Noddies (4) 1

Equalisers	(4) 3 MEE	(0) 3
Shower Off	(1) 5 Blackouts	(3) 1
Zero-Up	(1) 2 Four Play	(0) 3
Bulls Hitters	(3) 5 Dinar Soarsers	(1) 1
No Hoppers	(1) 1 Fintastics	(3) 5
Jabrya G	(2) 1 Has Beans	(2) 2
Pacifists	(1) 3 Wearrapeel	(3) 5
Fintastic Flyers	(0) 2 Chuckers	(4) 4
Absolutely	(4) 1 Mugs Away	(0) 5

Standings

Wednesday League	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Men's Section							
MEE	6	5	0	1	26	10	10
Has Beans	6	5	0	1	26	10	10
Soweto S	5	4	2	0	34	12	10
Chuckers	5	4	1	0	20	10	10
Bulls H	5	4	0	1	20	10	10
Mugs Away	6	4	0	2	24	12	8
Wearrapeel	6	3	2	1	24	12	8
Noddies	5	2	2	1	15	15	6
Four Play	5	2	1	1	15	9	6
Dinar S	5	2	1	1	14	16	6
Blackouts	6	2	1	3	17	19	5
Pacifists	6	1	3	2	16	20	5
Absolutely	6	2	1	3	15	21	5
Fintastics	6	1	1	4	10	14	3
Shower of T	6	1	1	4	13	23	3
Jabrya G	5	0	2	3	9	21	2
Equalisers	5	0	1	4	9	21	1
Has Beans	5	0	1	4	6	24	1
Fintastic Flyers	6	0	1	5	10	26	1
No Hoppers	3	0	0	3	3	15	0

Ladies Section

P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Zero-Down	4	4	0	16	6	9
Bulls H	5	4	1	0	16	9
Lady T	5	4	1	0	16	9
Noddies	5	4	1	0	14	9
Pacifists	6	3	0	1	16	9
Barbed C	6	3	0	2	12	10
MEE	6	3	2	1	14	10
Absolutely	6	3	2	1	12	11
Equalisers	6	3	2	1	11	11
Fintastics	6	3	2	1	9	7
Chuckers	6	2	1	1	11	9
Filies	6	2	1	1	11	9
Blackouts	6	1	1	4	8	10
Average	6	1	1	4	8	16
Mugs Away	6	1	1	4	7	17
Two Ply	6	1	0	5	5	11
Jabrya G	5	0	0	5	8	14
Human B	6	0	0	6	5	18
Fintastic Flyers	6	0	0	6	5	19
Northern L	3	0	0	3	3	9

Breeder's Cup winner out of Japan Cup

TOKYO, Nov 14, (Reuters): American-trained Prized, winner of the Breeder's Cup turf horse race and a leading fancy for the Japan Cup, will not run.

The surprise withdrawal from November 26 race was announced by the Japan Racing Association (JRA) today.

A JRA spokesman said the connections had pulled out the horse because he had been losing weight since winning the turf classic in Florida earlier this month.

His withdrawal from the 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) Japan Cup robs the event of its key element, the showdown with Carroll House,

English-trained winner of France's Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp last month.

The original invited foreign field of 10 is now down to seven. They will compete against eight Japanese runners, led by local favourites Inari One and Oguri Cap.

Dokes and Gonzales win easily



Dokes (left) lands a left to the face of Washington (Reuter wirephoto)

INGLEWOOD, California, Nov 14, (AP): Michael Dokes scored an eighth-round knockout over Lionel Washington to retain his World Boxing Association intercontinental heavyweight title in a scheduled 12-round bout last night at the forum.

In the other main event, Paul Gonzales retained his WBA intercontinental bantamweight crown with a 12-round unanimous decision over Antonio Lozada.

After being knocked down by Washington in the seventh round, Dokes came in the eighth with a flurry of punches to drop Washington. Fighting with a bloody nose, cut forehead and closed right eye, Dokes with a right to the jaw, followed by a left hook to the body and another left-right combination to the head at 1:28.

Washington, also bloodied, rose after a count of eight, but the referee stopped the fight.



Gonzales (right) slams a right to the head of Lozada. (Reuter wirephoto)

People pay to jump off bridges

NANAIMO, British Columbia, Nov 14, (AP): A New Zealander believes British Columbians will pay for the chance to jump off a bridge.

And he thinks he's found the ideal location on Vancouver Island — the Nanaimo river gorge.

In the first year of bungee jumping in Queenstown, New Zealand, about 17,000 thrill-seekers paid to leap off a bridge with only a thick rubber cord between them and eternity, says John Brown, a veteran of more than 300 such jumps.

"It's brand new there and people are coming from all over to try it," he said in a recent interview. "It's a huge tourist draw. There's been absolutely no injuries."

A bungee jumper attaches a rubber cord about 5 inches in diameter to his ankle, then leaps about 140 feet (42 metres) head-first toward the water. The cord, or bungee, begins to slow a diver's momentum after about a 45-foot (13-metre) free fall.

The momentum is all but stopped by the time the person reaches the water — but that's going down.

The bungee pulls the jumper back skyward at almost the same speed as the descent, Brown said. "The initial plunge is the big thrill but you pull about three GS (gravity-force) coming back up and you get three or four good bounces," he said. "It's a real adrenaline rush."

Brown said he travelled through about 25,000 miles (40,000 kilometres) of North America before settling on the Nanaimo river gorge.

He has already reached a tentative agreement for a long-term lease on the site with Ocean Construction.

"It's a totally unused portion of our gravel pit," said Dave Buchanan, Ocean Construction general manager. "The river below the leap site is usually around 25 to 30 feet deep, he added."

Brown said he hopes to start building a bridge for people to jump from early next year. The bridge will also add more height to the jump.

Norster out of Five Nations

LONDON, Nov 14, (Reuters): Wales are almost certain to be without British Lions lock Robert Norster for the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship beginning in January.

Norster, capped 34 times by the Welsh, damaged a shoulder while playing for a World XV side in South Africa in September and is awaiting exploratory surgery to assess the extent of the injury.

"I'm virtually resigned to missing the championship. My shoulder is nowhere near right," said Norster, who was badly injured by Wales as they crashed 34-9 against New Zealand in Cardiff earlier this month.

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19.000 KD! KARYSS folding bed with mattress - 180 pcs. available

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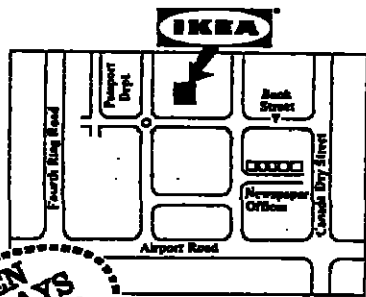
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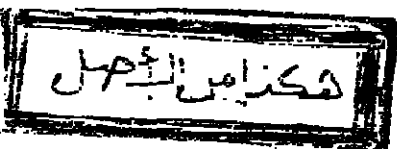
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8th Asian athletics meet opens in India

NEW DELHI, India, Nov 14, (AP): The 8th Asian Track and Field Championships opened yesterday with pomp, pageantry and tight security.

President Ramaswamy Venkatarman declared the six-day festival open after about 850 athletes from 34 Asian nations, representing one-third of the human race, marched into the 75,000-seat Jawaharlal Nehru stadium.

Bahrain led the procession of athletes. Unlike previous games, Iran marched ahead to Iraq. In previous games during the eight-year Gulf war, Iranian athletes refused to march next to athletes from their warring neighbour.

The ceremonial flame was lit in the oval arena by torches brought from the four corners of India to signify the unity of this nation of 880 million people.

Tens of thousands of runners travelled 8,888 kilometres (5,510 miles) in 10 days to bring the flame to New Delhi for the games, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister and the grandfather of the current prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi.

A tight security ring enveloped the stadium before the lavish 138-minute opening ceremony.

Elite "Black Cat" commandos, named because of their black uniforms, guarded the VIP stands. Rajiv, wearing a bullet-proof vest, drove into the stadium just minutes before the President arrived.

Twelve sky divers from the Indian Air Force descended from six kilometres (3.7 miles) into the stadium to the delight of an estimated 70,000 spectators.

Over 5,500 children dressed as butterflies danced to the tune of the festival's theme song, "The track of friendship."

The mascot, a butterfly flying out of a pair of hands symbolizing freedom, grace and perseverance, was taken around the stadium on an India-made hovercraft.

The actual competition begins tomorrow, with Asia's top sporting nations — South Korea, China and Japan — battling it out for top positions in the 38 events.

Thomas Abraham adds, eleven athletes from Kuwait are participating in the meet.

Some of the Kuwaiti athletes listed for participation are Ziad Al Anazy (110 metres), Yaqub Eshak (200 metres), Marzouk Al Yoha and Samah Farhan Al Bekheet (triple jump), Najem Mutlak Al Sowaleem (1500 m), Waleed Al Bekheet (hammer), Abdullah Srour (shot put), Ghanem Johar (javelin), Mecha'al Al Dowahbi (decathlon), Ne Jim Mutlak Al Sowaleem and Talal Salem Al Asfar (800 m) and Jasem Al Dowahbi (400 m hurdles).

New League gets under way

THE 'Kuwait Premier Soccer League' gets under way and kicks off on Saturday, November 18, 1989. The new League which replaces the now defunct "Hubara League" currently consists of 8 expatriate teams. All matches will be played at the Sahel Football Club, Abu Halifa.

The League has been organised along English Football Association guidelines and according to Steve Kelly (club captain and League representative), "the Kuwait Premier League will be a highly competitive and well-organised division. Discipline is, of course, primary importance and the League will be 100 per cent behind the referees — no nonsense will be tolerated."

The K.P.L. will still consider additional teams so any prospective entrants should contact Derek McGowan on 5651490 or 3710214 for further details.

The K.P.L. is also seeking more local participation in the form of sponsorship and welcome any enquiries in this direction.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Dunhill Bridge Tournament (7th week) played at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Monday.

- N/S
1. Vasudevan & Krishnaswamy
2. Sherin & Dr Adel
3. Tawil & Sabri
E/W
1. Abedin & Baz
2. Gajjar & Dr Reddy
3. Mrs Jaya Sapre & Shah

Tense showdowns in six World Cup qualifying groups

Europeans seek to secure place in finals

LONDON, Nov 14, (Reuters): Strong nerves and pocket calculators will be required all over Europe tomorrow when the continent's leading soccer powers attempt to secure their places in next year's World Cup finals.

On a night of tense showdowns in six of the seven qualifying groups, the European line-up for next summer's 24-nation tournament in Italy should be finally resolved although it may need a slide rule to complete the list of 13 European nations to join those already assured of their invitations.

Only Sweden, England, Yugoslavia, Spain and Belgium are already guaranteed their passages to Italy along with Brazil, Uruguay, Colombia, Costa Rica, South Korea and United Arab Emirates.

The rest, including such traditional powers as the Soviet Union, West Germany and 1988 European champions, the Netherlands, have still to confirm their bookings by taking points from their final ties on a night of 12 matches.

West Germany, twice winners and three-times beaten finalists including defeat by Argentina in

Mexico three years ago, require a clear victory over Wales in Cologne to secure their place in Italy outright.

But, with the two best second-placed teams from groups one, two and four assured of reservations, they could also go through as Group Four runners-up if they are narrowly beaten and Romania lose at home to Denmark in their Group One showdown in Bucharest earlier in the day.

West German manager Franz Beckenbauer, aware of possible problems if his players relaxed before the game, has stressed that his team must play to win regardless of the outcome of the Danes visit to Romania.

"Our preparation has been aimed at the fact that we must win. It would be better if the Bucharest result keeps it that way so that we have total concentration from the first second of the match."

The Netherlands, who lead West Germany in Group Four, will also secure their place if they triumph at home to Finland in a match which has required high security preparations including random metal detector checks

and huge safety nets behind the goals.

Two years ago, Dutch qualification for the European championship finals was threatened after a firework thrown from the crowd hit the Cypriot goalkeeper during a qualifying tie. The match was eventually re-played behind locked doors and the Dutch qualified comfortably and went on to take the title.

The Soviet Union also need a victory to complete their qualification from Group Three, but should have little difficulty in beating second-placed Turkey in Simferopol.

For the Turks, defeat would spell elimination and the winners of Austria's home tie against East Germany would join the Soviet Union in the finals. If both matches end in draws, intricate calculations will be required.

The outcome of Group One will be decided outright in Romania where Denmark will qualify as group winners if they avoid defeat. If they lose, the Danes only hope is of an unlikely passage as one of the best runners-up.

Scotland, having qualified for



Beckenbauer the last four finals tournaments, should make it five in a row by beating Norway in Glasgow. But such is the unpredictable nature of the Scots, France could still be

given a late opportunity to overhaul them by beating Cyprus on Saturday to qualify.

Groups Six and Seven are equally complex with Spain and Belgium already through and Ireland, in Group Six, needing just a point from their visit to Malta to join them and Portugal, in Seven, chasing a four-goal winning margin over Czechoslovakia to oust them and go through as section runners-up.

Standings
Standings ahead of tomorrow's World Cup European qualifying soccer matches (goals for — played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

Denmark	5	3	1	2	14	3	8
Romania	5	1	1	3	6	7	3
Bulgaria	5	1	1	3	6	7	3
Greece	5	0	2	3	2	15	2
Playing Wednesday: Greece v Bulgaria.							
Romania v Denmark.							
Note: Top team qualifies for finals two second-placed teams with best record from groups one, two and four also qualify.							
Group Two							
Sweden	6	4	2	0	9	3	10
England	6	3	3	0	10	0	9
Poland	5	1	1	3	2	7	3
Albania	5	0	0	5	2	13	0
Playing Wednesday: Albania v Poland.							
Note: Top team qualifies two second-placed teams with best records from groups one, two and four also qualify.							
Group Three							
Soviets	7	3	1	3	9	4	9

Turkey	7	3	1	3	12	8	7
E. Germany	7	3	1	3	9	10	7
Austria	7	2	3	2	6	9	7
Iceland	8	1	4	3	6	11	6

Playing Wednesday: Soviet Union v Turkey, Austria v East Germany.

Note: Top two teams qualify.

Group Four

Netherlands 3 2 0 5 2 8

West Germany 5 2 3 0 11 2 7

Finland 5 1 1 3 4 13 3

Wales 5 0 2 3 3 6 2

Playing Wednesday: West Germany v Netherlands, Wales v Finland.

Note: Top team qualifies two second-placed teams with best records from groups one, two and four also qualify.

Group Five

Yugoslavia 8 6 2 0 16 6 14

Scotland 7 4 2 1 11 9 9

France 7 2 3 2 8 7 7

Norway 7 2 1 4 9 8 5

Cyprus 7 0 1 6 6 18 1

Playing Wednesday: Scotland v Norway, playing Saturday: France v Cyprus.

Note: Top two teams qualify.

Group Six

Spain 7 5 1 1 16 3 11

Ireland 7 4 2 1 8 2 10

Hungary 7 2 4 1 8 8 7

Portugal 7 4 1 2 11 8 9

Switzerland 7 1 1 5 8 13 3

Luxembourg 7 0 1 6 2 20 1

Playing Wednesday: Spain v Hungary, Malta v Ireland.

Note: Top two teams qualify.

Group Seven

Belgium 8 4 4 0 15 5 12

Czechoslovakia 7 5 1 1 13 3 11

Portugal 7 4 1 2 11 8 9

Switzerland 7 1 1 5 8 13 3

Luxembourg 7 0 1 6 2 20 1

Playing Wednesday: Switzerland v Luxembourg, Portugal v Czechoslovakia.

Top two teams qualify.

Pakistan to meet India in first Test

KARACHI, Nov 14, (Reuters): Imran Khan's Pakistanis are expected to bank on their fast bowlers exploiting a green pitch and giving the suspect Indian batting a stern examination in the first cricket Test starting tomorrow.

The opening match of the four-Test series at Karachi's national stadium will be played amid tight security with a backdrop of deteriorating political relations between the two countries.

Imran, left-arm Wasim Akram and new pace bowling

discovery Waqar Younis look certain to form a three-pronged spear attack seeking to expose Indian batting that proved brittle in their previous series in the Caribbean and is short here of the experienced Dilip Vengsarkar and Mohinder Amarnath.

Former captain Vengsarkar opted out of the tour because he said he was mentally and physically stale, while Amarnath was overlooked.

India, trounced 3-0 in their four-Test series in West Indies

earlier this year and unsuccessful in the recent Sharjah Champions Trophy and Nehru Cup, contrast sharply with the inspirational Imran's buoyant side.

Yet although confidence is high after their double triumph in the Sharjah and Nehru competitions, Imran sounded a note of caution: "Certainly we won the one-day tournaments in Sharjah and in India but Test matches are a different ball game," he said.

Teams
PAKISTAN (from): Imran

Khan (captain), Javed Miandad, Rameez Raja, Shoaib Mohammad, Salim Malik, Ejaz Ahmed, Amir Malik, Shahid Saeed, Salim Yousuf, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Aaqib Javed, Abdul Qadir, Mushtaq Ahmad, Akram Raza.

INDIA (from): Krishnamachari Srikkanth (captain), Ravi Shastri, Navtej Singh, Raman Lamba, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sachin Tendulkar, Kapil Dev, Manoj Prabhakar, Kiran More, Arshad Ayub, Salil Ankola, Maninder Singh.

England face Italy

LONDON, Nov 14, (Reuters): Rival soccer manager Bobby Robson and Azzeglio Vicini both know that the meeting between England and Italy at Wembley tomorrow will be more than just another friendly match.

For Robson and England, the experience is bound to pose questions about the style of play needed to succeed at next year's World Cup finals.

For Vicini and Italy, it represents an important chance to silence the growing domestic criticism of the team's preparation for soccer's ultimate event.

Robson, perhaps, has most to lose. This week, he has publicly defended England's style of play because his assistant Don Howe admitted following England's final World Cup qualifier against Poland that changes in approach would be required if they were to succeed in Italy.

"There will be no serious restructuring of the way we play," insisted Robson. "We will go into the World Cup finals the way we want to play, the way we understand and the way we are familiar with. It is the way that has brought us results over the five-and-a-half years I have been in charge."

England are unbeaten in their last 12 matches since their humiliating 3-1 defeat against the Soviet Union in Frankfurt which ended their interest in the European Championships last year.

But Robson is well aware that a lacklustre performance in front of a sell-out Wembley crowd will only fuel the argument that he and his players struggle when faced with better-than-average opposition.

Richards to lead West Indies

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Nov 14, (Reuters): Viv Richards has been named captain and Clive Lloyd will manage the West Indies cricket team for the upcoming series against England, the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) announced yesterday.

The announcement was issued from Barbados by Steve Camacho, secretary of the WICBC, following conclusion of its annual general meeting over the weekend.

England are due in the Caribbean in January for a five-Test series and several one-day internationals.

The Karl Nunes Trophy was awarded to Antiguan and West Indies batsman Richie Richardson for his outstanding performances in the series against India in the Caribbean this year.

In addition to the announcement, Camacho said three of more than 20 West Indians who were banned from

playing in South Africa have written to the board seeking reinstatement.

They are Guyanese Faoud Bacchus, Barbadians Ezra Moseley and Franklyn Stephenson.

Camacho said he will be sending letters to these players next week, asking them to sign an agreement saying they do not intend to return to South Africa.

"On receipt of this they will be eligible to play for the West Indies," he said.

According to Camacho, former Test fast bowler Colin Croft has also applied but his letter has not yet been received.

All the players were banned for life from West Indian cricket after touring South Africa. Former Test batsman Lawrence Rowe captained two rebel tours to the white-ruled republic in 1983 and 1984.

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TYPE OF CAR	DOWN PAYMENT	INSTALMENT	TYPE OF CAR	DOWN PAYMENT	INSTALMENT
Mercedes 230 E	1045	165	Mercedes 260 SE	2050	205
Mercedes 200	1042	145	Mercedes 230 TE Box	1010	184
Mercedes 190 E	1040	125	Mercedes 200 TE Box	1035	176
Mercedes 300 SEL	2015	263			

قسم السيارات

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